

Appendix A
Public Outreach



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, YUMA
301 C STREET
YUMA AZ 85365-9498

April 22, 2011

Environmental Sciences Division

Ms. Elvie R. Hoag
Chief, Environmental Branch
ACC PMS/CEV
11817 Canon Blvd., Suite 306
Newport News, Virginia 23606

Dear Ms. Hoag:

The United States Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground intends to prepare a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS), in accordance with Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), to analyze the environmental impacts resulting from implementation of the Real Property Master Plan at the Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) northeast of Yuma, Arizona. This letter provides advance notice of the publication of the Notice of Intent (NOI) for the EIS in the Federal Register to allow your agency additional time to consider the action and identify any issues relevant for consideration in the NEPA analysis.

The project will allow YPG to maintain a facility capable of state of the art testing of military ground and aerial vehicle systems, weapons, munitions, sensors, and guidance systems; to provide realistic training, and to allow flexibility to enter into legally permissible Army/private industry projects where such projects are compatible with the military mission of YPG. YPG would undertake construction and demolition projects (primarily within cantonment areas), continue existing testing and training activities, and expand some testing and training areas and activities. No expansion of YPG would result from the proposed action. New construction would include a variety of facilities to meet mission requirements.

Two public scoping meetings will be scheduled following publication of the NOI, likely in mid-May. A separate meeting for interested agencies will be held prior to one of the public meetings. A notification letter with proposed project and meeting details will be sent once the NOI is published and meeting dates are set. Your office will be provided with a copy of the draft and final versions of the PEIS for review and comment. Your comments on this proposed action are requested. Comments or questions should be directed to the NEPA Coordinator, IMWE-YMA-PWE, U.S. Army Garrison Yuma, 301 C Street, Yuma AZ 85365-9498, facsimile (928) 328-6696, telephone (928) 328-2015, or email ypgnepa@conus.army.mil.

Sincerely,

Richard T. Martin
Garrison Manager

Distribution List for April 22, 2011 Letter

Native American

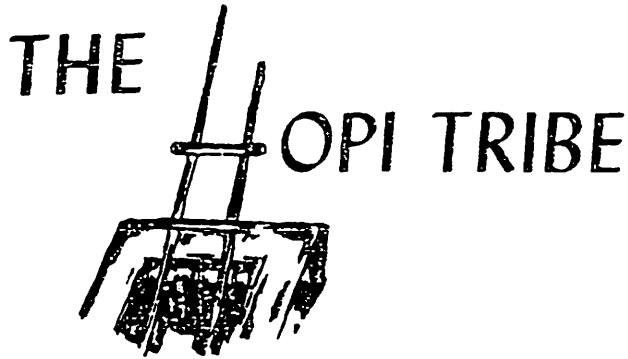
Ak-Chin Indian Community
Chemehuevi Indian Tribe
Cocopah Indian Tribe
Colorado River Indian Tribes
Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation
Fort Mojave Indian Tribe
Gila River Indian Community Council
Quechan Indian Tribe
Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
San Carlos Apache Tribe
Hopi Tribe
Tohono O'Odham Nation
Yavapai-Apache Nation
Yavapai-Prescott Tribe

Agency

ACC PMS/CEV
Arizona Department of Agriculture, Native Plant Program
Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, Air Quality Division
Arizona Game and Fish Department
Bureau of Indian Affairs - Western Regional Office
Bureau of Land Management, Yuma District Office
Environmental Department MCAS Yuma
Imperial National Wildlife Refuge
Kofa National Wildlife Refuge
Southwest Arizona National Wildlife Refuge Complex
U.S. Border Patrol
Bureau of Land Management, Yuma District Office
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Yuma Area Office
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Public and Local Government

Arizona Deer Association
Arizona Desert Bighorn Sheep Society
Arizona Wilderness Coalition
Audubon Society
City of Yuma
La Paz County
Sierra Club, Grand Canyon Chapter
Yuma County Development Services



LeRoy N. Shingoitewa
CHAIRMAN

Herman G. Honanie
VICE-CHAIRMAN

May 9, 2011

Richard T. Martin, Garrison Manager
Attention: Dr. Meg McDonald, Cultural Resources Manager IMWE-YMA-PWE
Department of the Army, US Army Installation Management Command
Headquarters, United States Army Garrison, Yuma
301 C Street
Yuma, Arizona 85365-9498

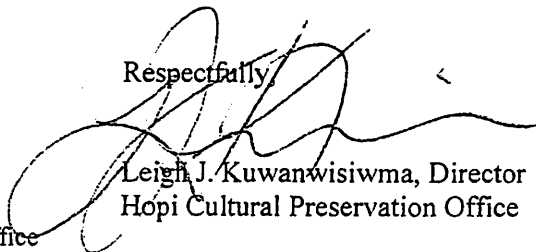
Dear Mr. Martin,

This letter is in response to your correspondences dated April 22 and May 2, 2011, regarding Yuma Proving Ground preparing a programmatic environmental impact statement for the implementation of the Real Property Master Plan, and a consultation meeting scheduled for June 8, 2011. The Hopi Tribe claims cultural affiliation to prehistoric cultural groups in Arizona, including the Hohokam prehistoric cultural group in southern Arizona. The Hopi Cultural Preservation Office supports the identification and avoidance of prehistoric archaeological sites, and we consider the prehistoric archaeological sites of our ancestors to be "footprints" and Traditional Cultural Properties. Therefore, we appreciate Yuma Proving Ground's continuing solicitation of our input and your efforts to address our concerns.

The Hopi Cultural Preservation Office has stated that we appreciate that the Yuma Proving Ground is identifying historic properties in potential use areas, and we are interested in consulting on any proposal that has the potential to adversely affect prehistoric cultural resources on the Yuma Proving Ground. We will be unable to send a representative to the June 8th meeting. However, we are interested in receiving copies for review and comment of the revised integrated cultural and natural resource management plans, the programmatic environmental impact statement, and the updates on cultural and natural resource management on these lands.

We appreciate that Yuma Proving Ground is extremely interested in avoiding and not damaging places of tribal concern and significance. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Terry Morgart at the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office at 928-734-3619 or tmorgart@hopi.nsn.us. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,



Leigh J. Kuwanwisiwma, Director
Hopi Cultural Preservation Office

xc: Arizona State Historic Preservation Office

Education Division conducted a formal section 7 consultation under the ESA. On November 18, 2008, NMFS issued a Biological Opinion (2008 BiOp) and concluded that the issuance of an IHA is likely to affect, but not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of Steller sea lions. NMFS has also issued an incidental take statement (ITS) for Steller sea lions pursuant to section 7 of the ESA. The ITS contains reasonable and prudent measures for implementing terms and conditions to minimize the effects of this take. NMFS has reviewed the 2008 BiOp and determined that there is no new information regarding effects to Steller sea lions; the action has not been modified in a manner which would cause adverse effects not previously evaluated; there has been no new listing of species or no new designation of critical habitat that could be affected by the action; and the action will not exceed the extent or amount of incidental take authorized in the 2008 BiOp. Therefore, the proposed IHA does not require the reinitiation of Section 7 consultation under the ESA.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

To meet NMFS' NEPA requirements for the issuance of an IHA to PRBO, NMFS prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) in 2007 that was specific to seabird research activities on SEFI, WEI, ANI, and PRNS and evaluated the impacts on the human environment of NMFS' authorization of incidental Level B harassment resulting from seabird research in Central California. At that time, NMFS determined that conducting the seabird research would not have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment and issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and, therefore, it was not necessary to prepare an environmental impact statement for the issuance of an IHA to PRBO for this activity. In 2008, NMFS prepared a supplemental EA (SEA) titled "Supplemental Environmental Assessment for the Issuance of an Incidental Harassment Authorization to Take Marine Mammals by Harassment Incidental to Conducting Seabird and Pinniped Research in Central California and Environmental Assessment for the Continuation of Scientific Research on Pinnipeds in California Under Scientific Research Permit 373-1868-00," to address new available information regarding the effects of PRBO's seabird and pinniped research activities that may have cumulative impacts to the physical and biological environment. At that time, NMFS concluded that issuance of an IHA for the December

2008 through 2009 season would not significantly affect the quality of the human environment and issued a FONSI for the 2008 SEA regarding PRBO's activities. In conjunction with this year's application, NMFS has again reviewed the 2007 EA and the 2008 SEA and determined that there are no new direct, indirect or cumulative impacts to the human and natural environment associated with the IHA requiring evaluation in a supplemental EA and NMFS, therefore, reaffirms the 2008 FONSI. A copy of the EA, SEA, and the NMFS FONSI for this activity is available upon request (see **ADDRESSES**).

Dated: May 20, 2011.

James H. Lecky,

*Director, Office of Protected Resources,
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 2011-12978 Filed 5-24-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Real Property Master Plan Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement, at Yuma Proving Ground, Arizona

AGENCY: Department of the Army, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of Intent.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Army intends to prepare a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) to analyze the environmental impacts resulting from adoption and implementation of a Real Property Master Plan (RPMP), including test areas and training activities at Yuma Proving Ground.

ADDRESSES: For questions concerning the RPMP PEIS, please contact Mr. Sergio Obregon, U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground, National Environmental Policy Act Coordinator, IMWE-YMA-PWE, 301 C Street, Yuma, AZ 85365-9498. Written comments may be mailed to that address or e-mailed to ypgnepa@conus.army.mil.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Chuck Wullenjohn, Yuma Proving Ground Public Affairs Office, at (928) 328-6189 Monday through Thursday from 6:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Mountain Standard Time.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Yuma Proving Ground consists of approximately 840,000 acres of DoD-managed land in the Sonoran Desert in southwestern Arizona and occupies portions of Yuma and La Paz counties. The mission at Yuma Proving Ground is ensuring the readiness of U. S. forces

and materiel to perform in hot arid conditions around the world. This requires rigorous testing of ground and aerial vehicles, weapons, munitions, sensors, and guidance systems and realistic training. The U.S. has been engaged in hostile conflicts in environments similar to those found at Yuma Proving Ground, resulting in a need for increased testing of existing and developing military equipment, vehicles, and munitions under these environmental conditions. To meet these needs, the U.S. Army intends to prepare a RPMP PEIS at Yuma Proving Ground to analyze potential impacts from new construction, changes in testing and training, and activities conducted under private industry partnerships. Renewable energy initiatives will also be discussed in the PEIS, but project-specific NEPA analysis will be required prior to implementing specific renewable energy initiatives.

Alternatives will consist of alternative siting locations for certain activities within Yuma Proving Ground and different magnitudes of implementation with regard to spatial extent of potential impacts and frequency and duration of specific events. The EIS will also analyze the No Action Alternative, under which no new construction would occur and there would be no changes in testing and training activities conducted at Yuma Proving Ground.

No changes are proposed to activities conducted at off-post areas in Arizona and California that are used for specific testing activities under conditions not found at Yuma Proving Ground. Therefore, these areas would not be considered in the development of alternatives for the RPMP PEIS.

All activities under consideration would be conducted within the boundaries of the installation. Resource areas that may be impacted include air quality, airspace, traffic, noise, water resources, biological resources, cultural resources, socioeconomics, utilities, land use, and solid and hazardous materials/waste. Impacts to these resources may occur as a result of converting existing land use to support military testing and training or from increasing the scope or magnitude of testing and training activities. The analysis will also consider the potential for cumulative environmental effects.

The public will be invited to participate in the scoping process to provide input on the proposed action and alternatives, which will be evaluated in the PEIS. After publication of the Notice of Intent to prepare the PEIS, the Army will schedule at least two public meetings to provide information about the proposed action

and alternatives and to solicit input and feedback from the public on issues to be addressed in the PEIS. Meetings will be announced in local media. The public will also be invited to review and comment on the Draft PEIS when it is released. Comments from the public will be considered before any decision is made regarding implementing the proposed action.

Brenda S. Bowen,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 2011-12914 Filed 5-24-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-08-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers

Public Scoping Meeting and Preparation of Environmental Impact Statement for Luce Bayou Interbasin Transfer Project in Liberty County and Harris County, TX

AGENCY: Department of the Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District, has received a permit application for a Department of the Army Permit pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403) and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344) from the Coastal Water Authority (SWG-2009-00188) for the proposed Coastal Water Authority's Luce Bayou Interbasin Transfer Project located in eastern Liberty County with the 26.5-mile corridor extending southwestward from the Trinity River to a discharge point near the confluence of Luce Bayou with Lake Houston. The primary Federal involvement associated with the proposed action is the discharge or dredged or fill material into waters of the United States, including jurisdictional wetlands, and the construction of structures that may affect navigable waters. Federal authorizations for the proposed project would constitute a "major federal action." Based on the potential impacts, both individually and cumulatively, the Corps intends to prepare an Environmental Statement (EIS) in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act to render a final decision on the permit applications.

The Corps' decision will be to either issue, issue with modification or deny Department of the Army permits for the proposed action. The EIS will assess the potential social, economic and

environmental impacts of the construction and operation of the interbasin conveyance, associated facilities, and appurtenances and is intended to be sufficient in scope to address Federal, State and local requirements, environmental issues concerning the proposed action, and permit reviews.

DATES: The scoping period will commence with the publication of this notice. The formal scoping period will end 60 days after the publication of this notice. Comments regarding issues relative to the proposed project should be received.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any of the following methods: *Mail:* Jayson M. Hudson, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Branch, P.O. Box 1229, Galveston, TX 77553-1229; *Fax:* (409) 766-3931 or *E-mail:*

Jayson.m.hudson@usace.army.mil.

Emailed comments, including attachments, should be provided in .doc, .docx, .pdf or .txt formats.

Documents pertinent to the proposed project may be examined at <http://www.swg.usace.army.mil/reg/eis.asp>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Jayson Hudson, (409) 766-3108.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Galveston District intends to prepare a DEIS on the proposed Luce Bayou Interbasin Transfer Project which is the proposed transfer of water from the Trinity River in Liberty County to Lake Houston in Harris County, TX. The Coastal Water Authority proposed this project and is the applicant for the Department of the Army permit (DA) SWG-2009-00188.

1. *Project Background:* The Coastal Water Authority is proposing to convey up to 400 million gallons of water per day (MGD) under gravity in accordance with the City of Houston's existing water rights permit from the Trinity River to Lake Houston, a distance of approximately 26.5 miles. The Trinity River water would be conveyed from the proposed pump station through large diameter pipelines to a sediment storage and settling basin and then through an earthen canal to outfall at the Lake Houston discharge point. The canal would have side berms and there would be an access road, drainage ditches, and perimeter fencing surrounding the water conveyance canal. The proposed project consists of the following:

a. A new water pumping station will be constructed on the Trinity River at Capers Ridge approximately 10 miles north of Dayton, TX.

b. Dual, 108-inch diameter force mains will be constructed extending from the Capers Ridge pump station

approximately 3.5 miles to the west and southwest to outfall to the sedimentation settling basin.

c. An approximate 20-acre sedimentation settling and storage basin.

d. An approximate 23.5 mile clay-lined earthen canal with 4:1 side slopes within a 300-foot easement that would include access roads, berms, chain link perimeter fencing, flow control structures, and metering stations.

e. Box culverts at canal and roadway crossings and multiple bawl-ground siphons constructed to facilitate wildlife movement and maintain existing hydrology along the canal conveyance system.

f. An approximate 10-acre maintenance facility located approximately 6 miles north of Dayton, TX.

g. Discharge structure along the southeastern shoreline of Lake Houston.

2. *Scoping and Public Involvement Process:* A Public Notice was published on April 19, 2010 to initiate the public scoping process for the proposed project. At that time, based on information provided by the Applicant, a preliminary review indicated that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was not required. However, based on continuing permit assessment and information brought forth during the initial coordination process, areas of potential significant impact on the human environment have been identified. Therefore, the EIS process is being implemented so that the permit application can be fully evaluated and a permit decision can be made. All comments received to date, including those provided for review during the initial scoping process, will be considered by the Galveston District during EIS preparation. The purpose of the EIS scoping meeting is to gather information on the subjects to be studied in detail by the EIS.

3. *Purpose and Need.* The basic purpose of the proposed action is to provide drinking water for the City of Houston and surrounding area. The overall purpose is to provide drinking water utilizing water rights currently held by the City of Houston in the Trinity River. The Corps recognizes that there is a public and private need for drinking water.

4. *Alternatives.* An evaluation of alternatives to the Applicant's preferred alternative initially being considered includes a No Action alternative, alternatives that would avoid, minimize and compensate for impacts to the aquatic environment within the project right-of-way, alternatives that would avoid, minimize and compensate for



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ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, YUMA
301 C STREET
YUMA AZ 85365-9498

May 31, 2011

Environmental Sciences Division

Mr. Louis J. Manuel, Jr.
Chairman
Ak-Chin Indian Community Council
42507 W. Peters and Nall Road
Maricopa, Arizona 85239

Dear Chairman Manuel:

The United States Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground intends to prepare a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS), in accordance with Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), to analyze the environmental impacts resulting from implementation of the Real Property Master Plan at the U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) northeast of Yuma, Arizona.

The project will allow YPG to maintain a facility capable of state of the art testing of military ground and aerial vehicle systems, weapons, munitions, sensors, and guidance systems; to provide realistic training, and to allow flexibility to enter into legally permissible Army/private industry projects where such projects are compatible with the military mission of YPG. YPG would undertake construction and demolition projects (primarily within cantonment areas), continue existing testing and training activities, and expand some testing and training areas and activities. No expansion of YPG would result from the proposed action. New construction would include a variety of facilities to meet the demand and space needed to meet mission requirements.

A scoping meeting for interested agencies and tribes will occur on Tuesday, June 14, 2011 at 3:00 p.m. at YPG's Main Administrative Area, in the Desert Breeze Travel Camp Community Center, Building 6. The first public meeting will also be held at this location, on Tuesday June 14, 2011 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. A second public meeting will be held at the Yuma Public Library, 2951 South 21st Drive, Yuma AZ, 85364, on Wednesday June 15, 2011 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Enclosed are driving directions from Yuma to the meeting location on YPG. Your office will be provided with a copy of the draft and final versions of the PEIS for review and comment. Your comments on this proposed action are requested. Comments or questions should be directed to the NEPA Coordinator, IMWE-YMA-PWE, U.S. Army Garrison Yuma, 301 C Street, Yuma AZ 85365-9498, facsimile (928) 328-6696, telephone (928) 328-2015, or email ypgnepa@conus.army.mil.

Sincerely,

Richard T. Martin
Garrison Manager

Enclosure

Distribution List for May 31, 2011 Tribal and Agency Letter

Native American

Ak-Chin Indian Community
Chemehuevi Indian Tribe
Cocopah Indian Tribe
Colorado River Indian Tribes
Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation
Fort Mojave Indian Tribe
Gila River Indian Community Council
Quechan Indian Tribe
Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
San Carlos Apache Tribe
Hopi Tribe
Tohono O'Odham Nation
Yavapai-Apache Nation
Yavapai-Prescott Tribe

Agency

ACC PMS/CEV
Arizona Department of Agriculture, Native Plant Program
Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, Air Quality Division
Arizona Game and Fish Department
Bureau of Indian Affairs - Western Regional Office
Bureau of Land Management, Yuma District Office
Environmental Department MCAS Yuma
Imperial National Wildlife Refuge
Kofa National Wildlife Refuge
Southwest Arizona National Wildlife Refuge Complex
U.S. Border Patrol
Bureau of Land Management, Yuma District Office
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Yuma Area Office
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Wellton-Mohawk Natural Resources Conservation District
NRCS Yuma Service Center



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, YUMA
301 C STREET
YUMA AZ 85365-9498

May 31, 2011

Environmental Sciences Division

Honorable Alan Krieger
City of Yuma
One City Plaza
Yuma, AZ 85366

Dear Honorable Krieger:

The United States Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground intends to prepare a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS), in accordance with Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), to analyze the environmental impacts resulting from implementation of the Real Property Master Plan at the U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) northeast of Yuma, Arizona.

The project will allow YPG to maintain a facility capable of state of the art testing of military ground and aerial vehicle systems, weapons, munitions, sensors, and guidance systems; to provide realistic training, and to allow flexibility to enter into legally permissible Army/private industry projects where such projects are compatible with the military mission of YPG. YPG would undertake construction and demolition projects (primarily within cantonment areas), continue existing testing and training activities, and expand some testing and training areas and activities. No expansion of YPG would result from the proposed action. New construction would include a variety of facilities to meet the demand and space needed to meet mission requirements.

The first public meeting will be held at YPG's Main Administrative Area, in the Desert Breeze Travel Camp Community Center, Building 6, on Tuesday June 14, 2011 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. A second public meeting will be held at the Yuma Public Library, 2951 South 21st Drive, Yuma AZ, 85364, on Wednesday June 15, 2011 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Enclosed are driving directions from Yuma to the meeting location on YPG. Your office will be provided with a copy of the draft and final versions of the PEIS for review and comment. Your comments on this proposed action are requested. Comments or questions should be directed to the NEPA Coordinator, IMWE-YMA-PWE, U.S. Army Garrison Yuma, 301 C Street, Yuma AZ 85365-9498, facsimile (928) 328-6696, telephone (928) 328-2015, or email ypgnepa@conus.army.mil.

Sincerely,

Richard T. Martin
Garrison Manager

Enclosure

Distribution List for May 31, 2011 Political Representatives Letter

Political Representatives

City of Yuma

Congressman Raul M. Grijalva - AZD07

House of Representatives

House of Representatives

La Paz County Community Development

United States Senate

United States Senate

Yuma County



THE STATE OF ARIZONA
GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

5000 W. CAREFREE HIGHWAY
PHOENIX, AZ 85086-5000
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REGION IV, 9140 E. 28TH ST., YUMA, AZ 85365

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GARY R. HOVATTER
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June 28, 2011

Sergio Obregon
NEPA Coordinator
U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground
IMWE-YMA-PWE
301 C Street
Yuma, Arizona 85365-9498

Re: Scoping Comments for the YPG Real Property Master Plan and Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement

Dear Mr. Obregon:

The Arizona Game and Fish Department (Department) received your May 31, 2011 letter requesting our participation in the scoping process for the development of a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) for the implementation of the Real Property Master Plan at the United States Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground (YPG). Department personnel also participated in the June 15, 2011 agency scoping meeting and the June 16, 2011 public meeting, and we are providing the following comments for your consideration.

Proposed Action

As the Department understands, the PEIS will analyze environmental impacts resulting from the implementation of the Real Property Master Plan. This will allow YPG to maintain a facility capable of state of the art testing of military ground and aerial vehicle systems, weapons, munitions, sensors, and guidance systems. It will provide for realistic training, and allow flexibility to enter into legally permissible Army/private industry projects where such projects are compatible with the military mission of YPG. YPG would undertake construction and demolition projects (primarily within cantonment areas), continue existing testing and training activities, and expand some testing and training areas and activities. No expansion of YPG would result from the proposed action.

Department Recommendations

Given the limited information available regarding the proposed action at this time, we recommend YPG coordinate early and often with the Department throughout the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process to help identify potential impacts to wildlife populations and habitats, and to develop appropriate avoidance, minimization, or mitigation measures. Additionally, the Department recommends YPG consider the following scoping issues:

1. Analyze potential impacts to vegetation, including mesquite bosques, desert washes, dunes, foothills, mountain ranges, water catchments, and other habitats utilized by wildlife.
2. Analyze potential impacts to specific wildlife species, including the Sonoran desert tortoise, mule deer, desert bighorn sheep, Sonoran pronghorn, and other special status species. Access the Department's Environmental On-line Review Tool to help identify special status species that have been identified as occurring in the project vicinity. This On-line Tool contains the best available data through the Heritage Database Management System (HDMS) and can aid in a thorough evaluation of potential impacts to wildlife species¹;
3. Analyze potential impacts to hunter access, law enforcement, and wildlife management activities, such as surveys and translocations, which could be impacted by the proposed action.
4. Coordinate with other resource management agencies such the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers regarding Clean Water Act issues, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regarding Migratory Bird Treaty Act and Endangered Species Act issues.
5. Ensure the YPG 1997 Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan (INRMP) is comprehensively reviewed and updated to provide programmatic guidance for the conservation, management, and monitoring of the range's natural resources, given the considerable new knowledge of wildlife resources that have been obtained through cooperative studies with YPG, and the change and expansion in testing, training, and other mission activities across the installation over the previous decade.

¹ The Department's HDMS data are not intended to include potential distribution of special status species. Arizona is large and diverse with plants, animals, and environmental conditions that are ever changing. Consequently, many areas may contain species that biologists do not know about or species previously noted in a particular area may no longer occur there. Not all of Arizona has been surveyed for special status species, and surveys that have been conducted have varied greatly in scope and intensity.

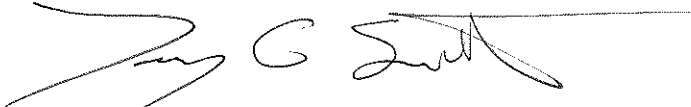
Mr. Sergio Obregon

6/28/2011

3

Thank you for the opportunity to provide scoping comments on the development of this PEIS. The Department appreciates your continued coordination and cooperation regarding the conservation and management of wildlife populations, habitats, and wildlife-oriented recreation on YPG. If you have any questions or would like to further discuss our comments, please contact me at 928-341-4068.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Troy G. Smith', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Troy G. Smith
Habitat Program Manager
Region IV, Yuma

cc: Josh Avey, Chief, Habitat Branch
Pat Barber, Regional Supervisor, Region IV
Laura Canaca, Project Evaluation Program Supervisor, Habitat Branch
Elaine Johnson, Project Leader, Southwest AZ National Wildlife Refuge Complex
Kirk Koch, Acting Manager, Yuma BLM Field Office
Leonard Ordway, Assistant Director, Field Operations Division

AGFD # M11-06152931

Affidavit of Publication

STATE OF ARIZONA

COUNTY OF YUMA

CITY OF YUMA

I, Darlene Firestone being duly sworn on oath now and during all times herein stated, have been the publisher (or authorized representative of Publisher) and designated agent of the publication known as,

Yuma Sun ("Publication"), a newspaper of general circulation in the county of Yuma, State of Arizona, by Newspapers of Southwestern Arizona, Inc.,

And having full knowledge of the facts herein stated as follows:

The advertisement for US Proving Grounds ("Ad/Advertiser") was published to the Publication's full circulation as requested by Advertiser on the:

29th Day of May, 2011.

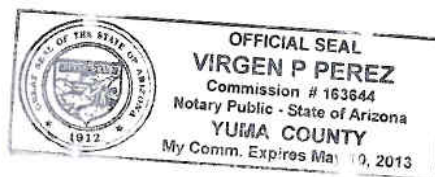
By: [Signature]

Subscribed and sworn to before me

This 8th day of June, 2011.

Notary Seal:

Virgen P. Perez
Notary Public



Casey Anthony's mother, ex-boyfriend testify; murder trial to resume Tuesday

ORLANDO, Fla. — The mother of a Florida woman accused of killing her 2-year-old daughter gave a tour of the family home, including a playhouse built for the toddler and the above-ground pool the defense team claims the girl drowned in.

Cindy Anthony testified Saturday at her daughter's murder trial that she and Caylee went swimming on June 15, 2008 — the last day she saw her granddaughter. She said she removed a lad-

into the pool — something she did every time the pool wasn't being used.

Casey Anthony, who is charged with first-degree murder in the toddler's summer 2008 death, wiped away tears with a tissue during her mother's testimony. Prosecutors contend Casey Anthony suffocated the girl with duct tape. If convicted, she could be sentenced to death.

Cindy Anthony was not asked directly Saturday whether she thought the young girl drowned. The trial will resume Tuesday in Orlando.

Through most of her tes-

timony, Casey remained on display on television monitors along the courtroom, where evidence is displayed for the jury, media and spectators. Anthony eventually interrupted her questioning, asking prosecutors to remove the photo.

Married folks now outnumbered: Census data shows them leading less than half of US households

PORTLAND, Ore. — Three mornings a week, when Becky Leung gets ready for work, her boyfriend is just getting home from his overnight job.

hints about her twin sister's marriage, she laughs it off. And when she thinks about getting married herself, she worries first about her career.

Leung, 27, cohabits in a Portland, Ore., townhome with her boyfriend but has no plans yet to wed, a reflection of the broader cultural shift in the U.S. away from the traditional definition of what it means to be a household.

Data released Thursday by the U.S. Census Bureau shows married couples have found themselves in a new position: They're no longer the majority.

It's a trend that's been creeping along for decades, but in the 2010 Census, married couples represent 48 percent of all households. That's down from 52 percent in the last Census and, for the first time in U.S. history, puts households led by married couples as a plurality.

"I see a lot of people not having the typical 8-to-5 job, or couples where one person is employed and one isn't. There's other priorities before marriage," Leung said.

The flip in the 2010 Census happened in 32 states. In another seven states, less than 51 percent of households were helmed by married couples.

PLAYS HIS GUITAR at the borough of New York of American immigrants v only indigenous language Spanish, and are finding U.S. means having to le

Some i cite no Spanish

Speakers of indigenous languages face extra hurdle

ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Co Aguilar needs help she goes to the doc when her co-worker nail salon call her phone.

A Mexican who has in the U.S. for two she only speaks a v of Mixteco, an indigenous language from the state of Oaxaca, Puebla and rero in southern Mexico.

"It is hard sometimes whispers the 28-year-old who was born in

PUBLIC NOTICE

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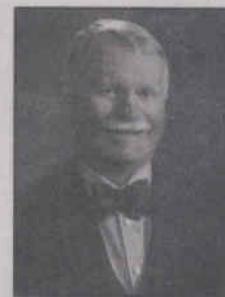
The project will allow YPG to maintain a facility capable of state of the art testing of military ground and aerial vehicle systems, weapons, munitions, sensors, and guidance systems; to provide realistic training, and to allow flexibility to enter into legally permissible Army/private industry projects where such projects are compatible with the military mission of YPG. Renewable energy initiatives will be discussed in the PEIS, but project-specific NEPA analysis will be required prior to implementing specific renewable energy initiatives. YPG would undertake construction and demolition projects (primarily within cantonment areas), continue existing testing and training activities, and expand some testing and training areas and activities. No expansion of YPG would result from the proposed action. New construction would include a variety of facilities to meet the demand and space needed to meet mission requirements.

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Affidavit of Publication

STATE OF ARIZONA

COUNTY OF YUMA

CITY OF YUMA

I, Darlene Firstone being duly sworn on oath now and during all times herein stated, have been the publisher (or authorized representative of Publisher) and designated agent of the publication known as,

Bojo El Sol ("Publication"), a newspaper of general circulation in the county of Yuma, State of Arizona, by Newspapers of Southwestern Arizona, Inc.,

And having full knowledge of the facts herein stated as follows:

The advertisement for US Proving Ground ("Ad/Advertiser") was published to the Publication's full circulation as requested by Advertiser on the:

3rd Day of June, 2011.

By: [Signature]

Subscribed and sworn to before me

This 8th day of June, 2011.

Notary Seal:

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Notary Public



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El ejército de los Estados Unidos de Yuma Proving Grounds tiene la intención de preparar una Declaración de Programación de Impacto Ambiental (PEIS, por sus siglas en inglés) en conformidad con la sección 102(2)(c) de Ley Nacional de Política Ambiental (NEPA, por sus siglas en inglés) para analizar los impactos ambientales como resultado de la implementación del Plan Maestro de Propiedad Real (RPMP, por sus siglas en inglés) en Yuma Proving Ground (YPG, por sus siglas en inglés) al noreste de Yuma, Arizona. El Aviso de Intención (NOI por sus siglas en inglés) de la PEIS fue publicado en el Registro Federal el 25 de mayo de 2011.

El proyecto permitiría a YPG a mantener una instalación capaz de probar sistemas de vanguardia del terreno militar y sistemas de vehículos aéreos, armas, municiones, sensores y sistemas de orientación; para proporcionar una formación realista y permitir la flexibilidad necesaria para entrar en proyectos del ejército y del sector privado legalmente admisibles donde tales proyectos sean compatibles con la misión militar de YPG. Se discutirán iniciativas de energía renovable en la PEIS, pero un análisis de la NEPA específicos del proyecto será necesario antes a la implementación de las iniciativas de energía renovable específicas. YPG realizaría los proyectos de construcción y demolición (principalmente en las zonas de acantonamiento), continuará las pruebas existentes y actividades de capacitación y ampliará algunas pruebas de formación y actividades. No habría una expansión de YPG como resultado de la acción propuesta. La construcción nueva incluiría una variedad de instalaciones para satisfacer la demanda y el espacio necesario para cumplir con los requerimientos de la misión.

Se llevará a cabo una reunión pública en YPG de las 6:00pm a 8:00pm en el edificio 6, del Centro Comunitario Desert Breeze Travel Camp, ubicado en el área administrativa principal en la salida de la calle Imperial Dam Road, el martes 14 de junio de 2011. Se llevará a cabo una segunda reunión pública en la biblioteca pública de Yuma, ubicada en el 2951 South 21st, Yuma AZ, 85364 el miércoles 15 de junio de 2011 de las 6:00pm a 8:00pm. Se pondrán a disposición del público versiones del borrador y finales de la PEIS para su revisión y comentario una vez finalizados. El proceso de exploración oficialmente comienza con la publicación de la NOI en el Registro Federal. Comentarios públicos serán solicitados hasta el 30 de junio de 2011. YPG también aceptará la opinión pública durante todo el proceso de NEPA. Todas las partes interesadas están invitadas a asistir a las reuniones públicas y a enviar comentarios o preguntas por correo a Sergio Obregon, Coordinador de la Ley Nacional de Política Ambiental a U.S Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground, IMWE-YMA-PWE, 301 C Street, Yuma, Arizona 85365-9498, o por correo electrónico al ypgnepa@conus.army.mil. Por teléfono, llame a Chuck Wullenjohn al (928) 328-6189 de 6:30 AM a 5:00 PM, de lunes a jueves.

THE OUTPOST

U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground, Yuma, Arizona 85365

Volume 41 No. 1 June 13, 2011

Published for the employees and families of Yuma Proving Ground, Yuma Test Center, U.S. Army Garrison — Yuma, Cold Regions Test Center and Tropic Regions Test Center

Summit focuses on MRAP tests

Event fosters communication between testers of Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicles throughout the U.S.

By Mark Schauer

During the worst years of the Iraqi insurgency, the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicle was developed to protect American Soldiers from the destructive power of roadside bombs and other improvised explosive devices (IEDs). After extensive testing, the heavily fortified platform with a blast-defusing V-shaped hull was rapidly fielded.

The vehicle's effectiveness resulted in the development of specialized variants, from the route-clearing Buffalo MRAP that uses a long hydraulic claw to dig land mines and IEDs to the MRAP All-Terrain Vehicle (M-ATV), a lighter and more

tested at YPG.

The number of variants and the program's status as a joint effort between the Army, Marine Corps, Air Force, and Navy mean the engineers who design and test MRAPs are scattered throughout the country. To facilitate interaction, the MRAP Joint Program Office (JPO) has held an annual engineering summit for the past three years. This year's two day event was held at YPG, and every MRAP tester in the Combat and Automotive Systems division participated.

"They hear about what is going on within the whole spectrum of the MRAP program, not just the area they are focused in," said Isaac Rodriguez, team leader in YPG's combat and



- NEWS NOTES

Public Notice

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Thursday, June 2, 2011

YPG public meetings planned for June 14 & 15

Yuma, Arizona - The United States Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground intends to prepare a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS), in accordance with Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), to analyze the environmental impacts resulting from implementation of the Real Property Master Plan at the Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) northeast of Yuma, Arizona. The Notice of Intent (NOI) for the PEIS was published in the Federal Register on May 25, 2011.

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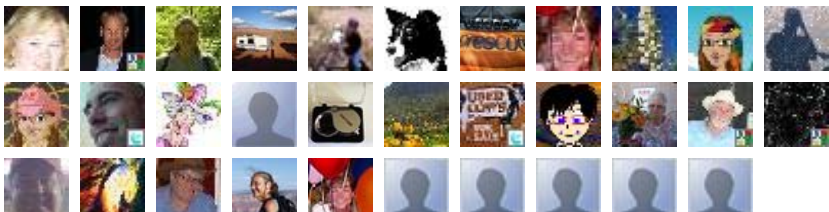
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Draft

Public Involvement Management Strategy

Environmental Impact Statement for Yuma Proving Ground, Yuma, Arizona

Prepared for
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Mobile District

December 1, 2010

CH2MHILL

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Appendices

A	PIMS Schedule for the YPG EIS
B	Public Involvement Documents

1.0 Introduction

This Public Involvement Management Strategy (PIMS) has been prepared to support the Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process. The purpose of this PIMS is to develop and guide the implementation of a public involvement strategy that will inform and educate the general public and interested stakeholders about the YPG EIS process. The PIMS includes information about tools and activities, such as fact sheets/meeting handouts, a web page, public scoping meetings, a public hearing, public notices, and press releases that will be used to communicate with the general public and stakeholders as the project moves through the EIS process.

2.0 Project Background

The U. S. Army intends to prepare an EIS, in accordance with Section 102(2) (c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), to analyze the environmental impacts resulting from the implementation of the Real Property Master Plan at YPG.

3.0 Project Issues and Stakeholders

NEPA is intended to consider environmental impacts in agency decision making and ensure public participation in the EIS process, which includes the identification and evaluation of project-specific issues. Public participation includes effective communication between all Federal, state, and local agencies, tribal governments, and other persons or organizations that may have an interest in the project. As part of the process, the public will be invited to attend public scoping workshops, and once the draft EIS is completed, review the document and participate in a public hearing.

Public scoping workshops are planned for Spring/Summer of 2011 to announce the commencement of the EIS process and to gather any initial concerns or issues the public might have with the project. Information provided at these meetings will include background information on the project and its purpose, the area of study, and the options being considered. The public will be given an opportunity to ask questions and make comments concerning the project and provide input on development of alternatives. Continued public involvement for the remainder of this project will be ensured through enactment of this PIMS.

Methods to reach the general public and interested stakeholders, in addition to the public meetings and public hearing, will include meeting announcements, press releases to local print and broadcast media, and a web site.

The U.S. Army will be the lead agency for this EIS. Other interested agencies and stakeholders may include:

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Bureau of Land Management
- Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
- Arizona Game and Fish Department
- Arizona Department of Mines and Mineral Resources
- Arizona State Historic Preservation Officer
- Other Department of Defense entities
- Native American tribes
- Other interest groups such as: Arizona Desert Big Horn Sheep Society

4.0 Public Involvement Tools and Activities

Public involvement is a vital part of the EIS process: it provides the general public and stakeholders an opportunity to understand and comment on Federal projects that could affect them. There are many different methods used to involve the general public and stakeholders; however, every public involvement strategy must include a public scoping workshop, a public hearing, and public comment period, as well as public notices and press releases. The public involvement tools and activities for the YPG EIS process will include the following:

- Public Scoping Workshops (planned for June 14, 2011 at the YPG Desert Breeze Travel Camp Community Center Yuma Public Library and June 15, 2011 at the Yuma Public Library)
- A Public Hearing in October 2011
- Fact Sheets/Meeting Handouts
- Public Notices and Press Releases
- Mailing Lists
- Compliance with Executive Order 12898, Environmental Justice, and Executive Order 13045, Child Protection Requirements

4.1 Public Scoping Workshops

Public scoping meetings are scheduled for June 14, 2011 at YPG and June 15, 2011 at the Yuma Public Library to announce the commencement of the EIS process and to gather any initial concerns or issues the public might have with the project. The meeting will be conducted in a workshop format with a series of display stations available for the public to review and obtain information about the project. Information presented on these display boards will consist of background information on the project and its purpose, the area of study, and the options under consideration. All graphic displays and handouts will be reviewed by YPG prior to use.

A public notice will be mailed to interested stakeholders prior to the public scoping workshops. Notice of the public scoping workshops will be advertised in the Yuma Sun, Bajo El Sol, Desert Messenger, and the YPG Outpost. Press releases will be sent to local TV news Channels 11 and 13, and local radio stations as identified by YPG. At the scoping workshops, the public will be given an opportunity to ask questions and make comments concerning the project. A court reporter will be present to transcribe the meeting.

A draft and final meeting summary, submitted to the YPG, will be prepared, summarizing the results and comments received at the public scoping workshops. A

hard copy of the workshop transcripts will be included in the meeting summary. This meeting summary will be posted on the YPG EIS web site.

4.2 Agency and Tribal Scoping Meetings

Agency and tribal governmental scoping meetings will be scheduled to overlap with the public scoping meetings (i.e., during an afternoon prior to the public meeting) to provide an opportunity for interested agencies and Native American tribes to ask questions and provide feedback on the YPG EIS process. A draft and final meeting summary will be prepared. Additional scoping meetings or calls may be scheduled upon request of the interested parties.

4.3 Public Hearing

One public hearing will be held in winter 2011 in Yuma to address the Draft EIS. The format of the hearing will include a presentation of the purpose and need for the project; a short presentation on how an EIS is organized; a discussion of the alternatives evaluated under the EIS; and a discussion of the purpose of the public comment period. Various graphics, including maps and charts, will be displayed in the meeting area. All graphics and handouts will be reviewed by YPG prior to use.

YPG representatives will open the public hearing. The Project Manager and other key contractor personnel will present the proposed alternatives, the evaluation framework for the alternatives, and the possible environmental effects of the proposed alternatives. A summary of the Draft EIS will be presented. The general public and interested stakeholders will then be provided an opportunity to make oral comments on the proposed action.

A court reporter will record the meeting, and a draft and final summary of the public hearing will be prepared. The summary for the hearing will be posted on the EIS web site. A hard copy of the meeting summary, along with a copy of the court reporter's transcript, will be provided to the YPG.

A public notice will be mailed to interested stakeholders prior to the public hearing. A notice of the meeting will also be posted on the YPG EIS web site and in local newspapers.

4.4 Fact Sheets/Meeting Handouts

Public involvement tools will also include fact sheets and meeting handouts. Fact sheets to be produced will provide information on the YPG EIS activities and status. The fact sheets will be provided at the meetings and later posted to the YPG EIS web site. Additional meeting handouts will also be prepared for distribution and display at the public workshops and public hearing. Suggested presentation boards for the scoping meetings include:

- Welcome Board (Project Title/Project Proponent)
- Project Location
- What is an EIS?

- Purpose and Need
- NEPA Issues
- Project Schedule
- Recreation and Natural Resources
- Cultural Resources

4.5 Press Releases and Public Notices

Press releases and public notices serve to notify the public of the status of an EIS. Press releases for the YPG EIS will be distributed prior to the public scoping workshops, the Draft EIS filing, the public hearing, and the submittal of the Final EIS. A public notice will also be published prior to the public hearing. Press releases will be issued prior to the scheduled public scoping workshops and the public hearing. Each press release will include the date, location, and purpose of the scoping workshops and the hearing. All public meetings will be held either in the City of Yuma or at the YPG.

The press releases for the Draft and Final EIS will be issued concurrently with the filing of each document. The press release for the Draft EIS will include the Notice of Availability of the draft document as well as the date for the public hearing. The press release for the Final EIS will include the Notice of Availability for the final document.

The following list presents the total number of press releases and corresponding milestones:

Press Release #1	Public Scoping Meetings
Press Release #2/Public Notice	Filing of Draft EIS (Date of publication in Federal Register)
Press Release #3/Public Notice	Public Hearing
Press Release #4	Filing of Final EIS (Date of publication in Federal Register)

4.6 Mailing List

Interested stakeholders and the general public also participate in the EIS process through inclusion on the public mailing list. Those included on the mailing list will be environmental organizations, Yuma organizations, local agencies, state and Federal agencies, state legislative representatives, and Federal congressional representatives. Others to be included on the list will be news media and public libraries within the Yuma area and those individuals who commented during the scoping process and/or during the public workshops and hearing.

The mailing list will be used as a source for the distribution of Notices of Availability for the Draft and Final EIS as well as for the public meeting announcements, press releases, and other notices and communications to the public. The distribution list for the Draft and Final EIS will also indicate the format in which these documents will be provided electronically.

The mailing list will be edited and updated periodically (and prior to the release of the fact sheets) so that those individuals who commented at the scoping meeting, the public workshop, and public hearing will be included. The list will also be updated to include others who have expressed an interest in the project, as well as deleting those requesting removal from the list, changes in address, and undeliverable mail.

4.7 Internet Web Page

An internet web site will be used to increase communication with the general public and stakeholders. This has proven to be a very efficient means of providing information on public workshops and hearings and serves as another method for the general public to provide comments. Other information and materials, such as fact sheets and meeting handouts, can be promptly posted and updated on the web site.

The web site to be created for the Draft EIS will include a home page, information on the EIS process, status of the project, and updates on public involvement activities. The Draft EIS and other support documents will also be posted to the web site. This tool will also provide the means for the general public and stakeholders to respond to the various submittals during the YGP EIS process. Other information to be included on the web site will be meeting summaries, YPG EIS fact sheets/meeting handouts, Notices of Availability, the EIS bibliography, press releases, and the project schedule.

4.8 Executive Order 12898, Environmental Justice and Executive Order 13045, Child Protection Requirements

Another component of an EIS, as part of the public involvement plan, is ensuring that two executive orders, Executive Order 12898 and Executive Order 13045, are followed. Executive Order 12898 requires Federal agencies, to the greatest extent possible and permitted by law, to address environmental justice in minority and low-income populations, when Federal actions are involved. Executive Order 13045 was issued to protect children from environmental health and safety risks.

To ensure compliance with these executive orders, representatives of minority and children's groups will be contacted and asked to identify issues of potential interest. They will also be asked to identify other groups or individuals that should be included on the general public mailing list.

To comply with these executive orders, all public notices, documents, and meeting summaries will be concise, understandable, and readily accessible to the public. These executive orders for environmental justice and child protection requirements will be explained at the public scoping workshop and hearing and in the EIS fact sheets.

APPENDIX A

PIMS Schedule for the YPG EIS

Press Release/Public Notice sent prior to Public Scoping Workshops

Public Scoping Workshop at YPG June 14, 2011

Public Scoping Workshop at Yuma Public Library June 15, 2011

Draft EIS to the Public Fall 2011

Public Hearing Winter 2011-12

FEIS Public Comment Period Summer 2012

Record of Decision Summer 2012

APPENDIX B

Public Involvement Documents

Appendix B will be compiled upon completion of the project. This appendix will include fact sheets/meeting handouts, press releases, public workshop and hearing notices, meeting summaries, and other items created for the project, as appropriate.

U.S. ARMY YUMA PROVING GROUND NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Chuck Wullenjohn
Public Affairs Office
Telephone: (928) 328-6189

Yuma, Arizona - The United States Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground intends to prepare a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS), in accordance with Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), to analyze the environmental impacts resulting from implementation of the Real Property Master Plan at the Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) northeast of Yuma, Arizona. The Notice of Intent (NOI) for the PEIS was published in the Federal Register on May 25, 2011.

The project will allow YPG to maintain a facility capable of state of the art testing of military ground and aerial vehicle systems, weapons, munitions, sensors, and guidance systems; to provide realistic training, and to allow flexibility to enter into legally permissible Army/private industry projects where such projects are compatible with the military mission of YPG. Renewable energy initiatives will be discussed in the PEIS, but project-specific NEPA analysis will be required prior to implementing specific renewable energy initiatives. YPG would undertake construction and demolition projects (primarily within cantonment areas), continue existing testing and training activities, and expand some testing and training areas and activities. No expansion of YPG would result from the proposed action. New construction would include a variety of facilities to meet the demand and space needed to meet mission requirements.

A public meeting will be held on YPG from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at Building 6, the Desert Breeze Travel Camp Community Center, located on the main administrative area off of Imperial Dam Road on Tuesday June 14, 2011. A second public meeting will be held at the Yuma Public Library, 2951 South 21st Drive, Yuma AZ, 85364 on Wednesday June 15, 2011 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. Draft and final versions of the PEIS will be made available to the public for review and comment when completed. The scoping process officially begins with the publication of the NOI in the Federal Register. Public scoping comments will be solicited through June 30, 2011. YPG will also accept public input throughout the NEPA process. All interested parties are invited to attend the public meetings and to submit comments or questions by mail to Sergio Obregon, National Environmental Policy Act Coordinator, U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground, IMWE-YMA-PWE, 301 C Street, Yuma, Arizona 85365-9498, or e-mail ypgnepa@conus.army.mil. By phone, contact Chuck Wullenjohn at (928) 328-6189 from 6:30 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Thursday.

EJERCITO DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS DE YUMA PROVING GROUND COMUNICADO DE PRENSA

PARA DIFUSIÓN INMEDIATA

CONTACTO: Chuck Wullenjohn
Oficina de Asuntos Públicos
Teléfono: (928) 328-6189

El ejército de los Estados Unidos de Yuma Proving Grounds tiene la intención de preparar una Declaración de Programación de Impacto Ambiental (PEIS, por sus siglas en inglés) en conformidad con la sección 102(2)(c) de Ley Nacional de Política Ambiental (NEPA, por sus siglas en inglés) para analizar los impactos ambientales como resultado de la implementación del Plan Maestro de Propiedad Real (RPMP, por sus siglas en inglés) en Yuma Proving Ground (YPG, por sus siglas en inglés) al noreste de Yuma, Arizona. El Aviso de Intención (NOI por sus siglas en inglés) de la PEIS fue publicado en el Registro Federal el 25 de mayo de 2011.

El proyecto permitiría a YPG a mantener una instalación capaz de probar sistemas de vanguardia del terreno militar y sistemas de vehículos aéreos, armas, municiones, sensores y sistemas de orientación; para proporcionar una formación realista y permitir la flexibilidad necesaria para entrar en proyectos del ejército y del sector privado legalmente admisibles donde tales proyectos sean compatibles con la misión militar de YPG. Se discutirán iniciativas de energía renovable en la PEIS, pero un análisis de la NEPA específicos del proyecto será necesario antes a la implementación de las iniciativas de energía renovable específicas. YPG realizaría los proyectos de construcción y demolición (principalmente en las zonas de acantonamiento), continuará las pruebas existentes y actividades de capacitación y ampliará algunas pruebas de formación y actividades. No habría una expansión de YPG como resultado de la acción propuesta. La construcción nueva incluiría una variedad de instalaciones para satisfacer la demanda y el espacio necesario para cumplir con los requerimientos de la misión.

Se llevará a cabo una reunión pública en YPG de las 6:00pm a 8:00pm en el edificio 6, del Centro Comunitario Desert Brezee Travel Camp, ubicado en el área administrativa principal en la salida de la calle Imperial Dam Road, el martes 14 de junio de 2011. Se llevará a cabo una segunda reunión pública en la biblioteca pública de Yuma, ubicada en el 2951 South 21st, Yuma AZ, 85364 el miércoles 15 de junio de 2011 de las 6: 00pm a 8:00pm. Se pondrán a disposición del público versiones del borrador y finales de la PEIS para su revisión y comentario una vez finalizados. El proceso de exploración oficialmente comienza con la publicación de la NOI en el Registro Federal. Comentarios públicos serán solicitados hasta el 30 de junio de 2011. YPG también aceptará la opinión pública durante todo el proceso de NEPA. Todas las partes interesadas están invitadas a asistir a las reuniones públicas y a enviar comentarios o preguntas por correo a Sergio Obregon, Coordinador de la Ley Nacional de Política Ambiental a U.S Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground, IMWE-YMA-PWE, 301 C Street, Yuma, Arizona 85365-9498, o por correo electrónico al ypgnepa@conus.army.mil. Por teléfono, llame a Chuck Wullenjohn al (928) 328-6189 de 6:30 AM a 5:00 PM, de lunes a jueves.

Price, Robert/ATL

From: Price, Robert/ATL
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2011 9:37 AM
To: 'news@kswt.com'
Subject: Press Release
Attachments: YPG Press Release 6-3-11.docx

Please see the attached press release for information on an upcoming project at United States Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground. Two public meetings will be held in mid-June to provide an opportunity for comment.

Contacts for additional information on the project are included in the attachment.

Thank you.

Rob Price
Environmental Scientist
CH2M HILL
Northpark 400
1000 Abernathy Road, Suite 1600
Atlanta, Georgia 30328
Direct 678.530.4275
Fax 770.604.9183
Mobile 404.368.3173
rprice2@ch2m.com

Price, Robert/ATL

From: Price, Robert/ATL
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2011 9:38 AM
To: 'news@kyma.com'
Subject: Press Release
Attachments: YPG Press Release 6-3-11.docx

Please see the attached press release for information on an upcoming project at United States Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground. Two public meetings will be held in mid-June to provide an opportunity for comment.

Contacts for additional information on the project are included in the attachment.

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Mobile 404.368.3173
rprice2@ch2m.com

Price, Robert/ATL

From: Price, Robert/ATL
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2011 9:45 AM
To: 'kcfy@kcfyfm.com'
Subject: Press Release
Attachments: YPG Press Release 6-3-11.docx

Please see the attached press release for information on an upcoming project at United States Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground. Two public meetings will be held in mid-June to provide an opportunity for comment.

Contacts for additional information on the project are included in the attachment.

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Atlanta, Georgia 30328
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Fax 770.604.9183
Mobile 404.368.3173
rprice2@ch2m.com

Price, Robert/ATL

From: Price, Robert/ATL
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2011 9:48 AM
To: 'kim.johnson@kawc.org'
Subject: Press Release
Attachments: YPG Press Release 6-3-11.docx

Ms. Johnson,

Please see the attached press release for information on an upcoming project at United States Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground. Two public meetings will be held in mid-June to provide an opportunity for comment.

Contacts for additional information on the project are included in the attachment.

Thank you.

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Direct 678.530.4275
Fax 770.604.9183
Mobile 404.368.3173
rprice2@ch2m.com

Price, Robert/ATL

From: Price, Robert/ATL
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2011 9:58 AM
To: 'todaysbestmusic@z93yuma.com'
Subject: Press Release
Attachments: YPG Press Release 6-3-11.docx

Please see the attached press release for information on an upcoming project at United States Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground. Two public meetings will be held in mid-June to provide an opportunity for comment.

Contacts for additional information on the project are included in the attachment.

Thank you.

Rob Price

Environmental Scientist

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Atlanta, Georgia 30328

Direct 678.530.4275

Fax 770.604.9183

Mobile 404.368.3173

rprice2@ch2m.com

Price, Robert/ATL

From: Price, Robert/ATL
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2011 10:01 AM
To: 'jeffharris@edbroadcasters.com'
Subject: Press Release
Attachments: YPG Press Release 6-3-11.docx

Mr. Harris,

Please see the attached press release for information on an upcoming project at United States Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground. Two public meetings will be held in mid-June to provide an opportunity for comment.

Contacts for additional information on the project are included in the attachment.

Thank you.

Rob Price
Environmental Scientist
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Atlanta, Georgia 30328
Direct 678.530.4275
Fax 770.604.9183
Mobile 404.368.3173
rprice2@ch2m.com

Price, Robert/ATL

From: Price, Robert/ATL
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2011 10:10 AM
To: 'oldiesradio@kjokyuma.com'
Subject: Press Release
Attachments: YPG Press Release 6-3-11.docx

Please see the attached press release for information on an upcoming project at United States Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground. Two public meetings will be held in mid-June to provide an opportunity for comment.

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Thank you.

Rob Price
Environmental Scientist

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Fax 770.604.9183
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rprice2@ch2m.com

Price, Robert/ATL

From: Price, Robert/ATL
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2011 10:39 AM
To: 'kyrm@lwrn.org'
Subject: Press Release
Attachments: YPG_Press_Release_Spanish_06-03-11.docx; YPG Press Release 6-3-11.docx

Please see the attached press release for information on an upcoming project at United States Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground. Two public meetings will be held in mid-June to provide an opportunity for comment.

Contacts for additional information on the project are included in the attachment.

Thank you.

Rob Price
Environmental Scientist

CH2M HILL
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1000 Abernathy Road, Suite 1600
Atlanta, Georgia 30328
Direct 678.530.4275
Fax 770.604.9183
Mobile 404.368.3173

Price, Robert/ATL

From: Price, Robert/ATL
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2011 1:27 PM
To: '928-782-3874'
Subject: Press Release
Attachments: YPG_Press_Release_Spanish_06-03-11.docx; YPG Press Release 6-3-11.docx

Ms. Rosella Lopez,

Please see the attached press release for information on an upcoming project at United States Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground. Two public meetings will be held in mid-June to provide an opportunity for comment.

Contacts for additional information on the project are included in the attachment.

Thank you.

Rob Price
Environmental Scientist
CH2M HILL
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1000 Abernathy Road, Suite 1600
Atlanta, Georgia 30328
Direct 678.530.4275
Fax 770.604.9183
Mobile 404.368.3173

Price, Robert/ATL

From: Price, Robert/ATL
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2011 2:01 PM
To: '928-343-0218'
Subject: Press Release
Attachments: YPG Press Release 6-3-11.docx

Please see the attached press release for information on an upcoming project at United States Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground. Two public meetings will be held in mid-June to provide an opportunity for comment.

Contacts for additional information on the project are included in the attachment.

Thank you.

Rob Price
Environmental Scientist

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Northpark 400
1000 Abernathy Road, Suite 1600
Atlanta, Georgia 30328
Direct 678.530.4275
Fax 770.604.9183
Mobile 404.368.3173

Media Contact List

Newspapers

Bajo El Sol

Desert Messenger

Yuma Sun

Television Stations

KECY (Fox 9)

KSWT (CBS 13)

KYMA (NBC 11)

Radio Stations

KCFY (88.1 FM)

KAWC (88.9 FM/1320 AM)

KYRM (91.9 FM)

KLJZ (93.1 FM)

KTTI (95.1 FM)

KCEC (104.5 FM)

KQSR (100.9 FM)

KBLU (560 AM)

KJOK (1400 AM)

Mailing List											
Title	First Name	Last Name	Job Title	Company	Address1	Address2	City	State	Postal Code	Email Address	Phone Number
Ms.	Caroline	Antone	Cultural Resources Manager	Ak-Chin Indian Community	42507 W. Peters and Nall Road		Maricopa	Arizona	85239		
Ms.	Sandy	Bahr	Conservation Outreach Director	Sierra Club, Grand Canyon Chapter	202 East McDowell Road, Suite 277		Phoenix	Arizona	85004-4536		
Mr.	Scott	Bernhart	Director, Community Development	La Paz County	1112 Joshua, Suite 202		Parker	Arizona	85344		
Mr.	Bryan	Bowker	Regional Director	Bureau of Indian Affairs - Western Regional Office	2600 N. Central Avenue #400		Phoenix	Arizona	85365		
Ms.	Carol	Brooks	Curator	Arizona Historical Society	240 S. Madison Avenue		Yuma	Arizona	85364		
Ms.	Sheryl	Christenson	District Supervisor	Laguna NRCB, Yuma NRCB	2197 S 4th Ave, Suite104		Yuma	Arizona	85364		
Mr.	Pete	Cimellaro	President	Arizona Deer Association	P.O. Box 21868		Mesa	Arizona	85277		
Ms.	Sherry	Cordova	Chairwoman	Cocopah Indian Tribe	County 15th and Avenue G		Somerton	Arizona	85350		
Mr.	Dave	Daniels	Planning & Environmental Coordinator	Bureau of Land Management, Yuma District Office	2555 East Gila Ridge Road		Yuma	Arizona	85364		
Mr.	Henry	Darwin	Director	Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, Air Quality Division	1110 West Washington Street		Phoenix	Arizona	85365		
Ms.	Rebecca	Davidson	Project Evaluation Program Supervisor, Habitat Program	Arizona Game and Fish Department	5000 W. Carefree Highway		Phoenix	Arizona	85004-3008		
Mr.	Mitch	Ellis	Complex Manager	Southwest Arizona National Wildlife Refuge Complex	9300 E. 28th St.		Yuma	Arizona	85007		
Mr.	Eldred	Enas	Chairman	Colorado River Indian Tribes	26600 Mohave Road		Parker	Arizona	85344		
Ms.	Julie	Engel	President/CEO	Greater Yuma Economic Development	899 Plaza Circle Drive	Suite 2	Yuma	AZ	85364		
Ms.	Diane	Enos	Chairwoman	Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community	10005 East Osborn Road		Scottsdale	Arizona	85256		
Mr.	Ronald	Escobar	Secretary Treasurer	Chemehuevi Indian Tribe	P.O. Box 1976		Havasupai Lake	California	92363		
Ms.	Charlene	Fernandez	Community Representative	Congressman Raul M. Grijalva – AZD07	201 Bingham Avenue	Suite 2	Somerton	AZ	85350	Charlene.Fernandez@mail.house.gov	928-343-7933
Mr.	Don	Foltz	Chairman	Yuma Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee	180 W 1st Street	Suite A	Yuma	AZ	85364		
Ms.	Maria	Gonzalez	Environmental Compliance Inspector	Yuma County	198 S. Main Street		Yuma	AZ	85364	maria.gonzalez@yumacounty.az.gov	928-817-5139
Ms.	Vernelda	Grant	Director, Historic Preservation Office	San Carlos Apache Tribe	P.O. Box O		San Carlos	Arizona	85550		
Mr.	Richard	Hays	Supervising Border Patrol Agent	U.S. Border Patrol	4035 South Avenue A		Yuma	Arizona	85007		
Ms.	Susanna	Henry	Refuge Manager	Kofa National Wildlife Refuge	Southwest Arizona National Wildlife Refuge Complex	9300 E. 28th St.	Yuma	Arizona	94105-3901		
Ms.	Irene	Herder	Superintendent	Bureau of Indian Affairs - Western Regional Office	2600 N. Central Avenue #400		Phoenix	Arizona	85365		
Ms.	Elvie R.	Hoag	Chief, Environmental Branch	ACC PMS/CEV	11817 Canon Blvd., Suite 306		Newport News	Virginia	85004-3008		
Ms.	Cynthia	Hoelt	Director of Resource Management Office	Bureau of Land Management, Yuma District Office	2555 East Gila Ridge Road		Yuma	Arizona	85364		
Mr.	Mike	Jackson, Sr.	President	Quechan Indian Tribe	P.O. Box 1899		Yuma	Arizona	85366		
Ms.	Elaine	Johnson	Refuge Manager	Imperial National Wildlife Refuge	P.O.Box 72217	12812 N. Wildlife Way	Yuma	Arizona	85007		

Congressman	Russ	Jones	House of Representatives		1700 W. Washington	Room 345	Phoenix	AZ	85007	rjones@azleg.gov	602-926-3002
Mr.	Ernest	Jones, Sr.	President	Yavapai-Prescott Tribe	530 East Merritt Street		Prescott	Arizona	86301		
Honorable	Alan	Krieger	Mayor	City of Yuma	One City Plaza		Yuma	AZ	85366	Mayors invite must get out through Col. Payne's Office. Alan.Krieger@YumaAz.gov	928-373-5002
Mr.	Leigh	Kuwanisima	Director, Hopi Cultural Preservation Office	Hopi Tribe	P.O. Box 123		Kykotsmovi	Arizona	86039		
Mr.	David	Kwail	Chairman	Yavapai-Apache Nation	2400 W. Datsi Road		Camp Verde	Arizona	86322		
Ms.	Cheryl	Lambert	District Conservationist	NRCS Yuma Service Center	2197 S 4TH AVE, STE 104		Yuma	Arizona	85364		
Mr.	Barnaby V.	Lewis	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	Gila River Indian Community Council	P.O. Box 2140		Sacaton	Arizona	85247		
Ms.	Laurie	Lineberry	Assistant Director of Community Development	City of Yuma	P.O. Box 13013		Yuma	Arizona	85366-3013		
Mr.	Bill	Luffy	President	Arizona Desert Bighorn Sheep Society	P.O. Box 21705		Mesa	Arizona	85277		
Mr.	Louis J.	Manuel, Jr.	Chairman	Ak-Chin Indian Community Council	42507 W. Peters and Nall Road		Maricopa	Arizona	85239		
Honorable	John	McCain	United States Senate		2201 East Camelback Road	Suite 115	Phoenix	AZ	85016	No Public Email Available	602-952-2410
Ms.	Jill	McCormick	Cultural Resources Manager	Cocopah Indian Tribe	County 15th and Avenue G		Somerton	Arizona	85350		
Mr.	James	McGinnis	Supervisor, Special Investigations	Arizona Department of Agriculture, Native Plant Program	1688 West Adams		Phoenix	Arizona	85365		
Ms.	Colleen	McVey		La Paz County Community Development	1112 Joshua Avenue	Suite 202	Parker	AZ	85344	cmcvey@co.la-paz.az.us	928-669-6138
Ms.	Bridget	Nash-Chrabasz	Quechan Historic Preservation Officer	Quechan Indian Tribe	P.O. Box 1899		Yuma	Arizona	85366		
Mr.	Wayne	Nastri	Regional Administrator (ORA-1)	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX	75 Hawthorne Street		San Francisco	California	85021		
Mr.	Ned	Norris, Jr.	Chairman	Tohono O'Odham Nation	P.O. Box 837		Sells	Arizona	86534		
Ms.	Linda	Ogo	Culture Research Department Director	Yavapai-Prescott Tribe	530 East Merritt Street		Prescott	Arizona	86301		
Ms.	Delfina C.	Olivarez	Project Manager, Federal Project Unit	Arizona Department of Environmental Quality	1110 West Washington Street		Phoenix	Arizona	85007		
Ms.	Linda	Otero	Director, AhaMaKav Cultural Society	Fort Mojave Indian Tribe	P.O. Box 5990		Mohave Valley	Arizona	86440		
Congresswoman	Lynne	Pancrazi	House of Representatives		1700 W. Washington	Room 324	Phoenix	AZ	85007	lpancrazi@azleg.gov	602-926-3004
Dr.	Clinton M.	Pattea	President	Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation	P.O. Box 17779		Fountain Hills	Arizona	85268		
Mr.	Robert	Pickles	Yuma County Administrator	Yuma County	198 S. Main Street		Yuma	AZ	85364		
Ms.	Delores	Plunkett	Director, Cultural Department	Yavapai-Apache Nation	2400 W. Datsi Road		Camp Verde	Arizona	86322		
Mr.	Terry	Rambler	Chairman	San Carlos Apache Tribe	P.O. Box O		San Carlos	Arizona	85550		
Mr.	Edward	Ranger	Administrative Counsel	Arizona Department of Environmental Quality	1110 West Washington Street		Phoenix	Arizona	85086-5000		
Ms.	Patricia	Rather	President	Audubon Society	P.O. Box 6395		Yuma	Arizona	85366		

Ms.	Karen	Ray	Language/Cultural Coordinator	Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation Community	P.O. Box 17779		Fountain Hills	Arizona	85268		
Mr.	Elliott George	Ray	Colorado River Indian Tribes Museum	Colorado River Indian Tribes	26600 Mohave Road		Parker	Arizona	85344		
Mr.	William R.	Rhodes	Governor	Gila River Indian Community Council	P.O. Box 2140		Sacaton	Arizona	85247		
Mr.	Dave	Rodriguez	Director	Environmental Department MCAS	Box 99110		Yuma	Arizona	85365		
Mr.	Ken	Rosevear	Executive Director	Yuma County Chamber of Commerce	180 W 1st Street	Suite A	Yuma	AZ	85364		
Mr.	David	Sharpe	Chairman	Wellton-Mohawk Natural Resources Conservation District	c/o Natural Resources Conservation Service	5578 South Avenue 37E	Roll	Arizona	85347		
Mr.	LeRoy N.	Shingoitewa	Chairman	Hopi Tribe	P.O. Box 123		Kykotsmovi	Arizona	86039		
Honorable	Don	Shooter	United States Senate		1700 W. Washington	Room 304	Phoenix	AZ	85007	dshooter@azleg.gov	602-926-4139
Mr.	Troy	Smith	Habitat Program Manager	Arizona Game and Fish Department	9140 East 28th Street		Yuma	Arizona	85365		
Mr.	Troy	Smith		AZ Game and Fish Department	9140 E 28th Street		Yuma	Arizona	85365		
Mr.	Steven L.	Spangle	Arizona Ecological Services Field Office	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	2322 West Royal Palm Road, Suite 103		Phoenix	Arizona	85364		
Mr.	Monty	Stansbury	Planning Director	Yuma County Development Services	2703 South Avenue B		Yuma	Arizona	85364		
Mr.	Peter	Steere	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer	Tohono O'Odham Nation	P.O. Box 837		Sells	Arizona	86534		
Ms.	Lisa	Swick	Acting Director, Colorado River Indian Tribes Museum	Colorado River Indian Tribes	26600 Mohave Road		Parker	Arizona	85344		
Mr.	Christopher	Wallis	Director of Resource Management Office	U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Yuma Area Office	7301 Calle Aqua Salada		Yuma	Arizona	85365-3596		
Mr.	Kelly	Washington	Cultural Resources Department Director	Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community	10005 East Osborn Road		Scottsdale	Arizona	85256		
Mr.	Timothy	Williams	Chairman	Fort Mojave Tribal Council	500 Merriman Avenue		Needles	Californi	92363		
Mr.	Jason	Williams	Regional Director	Arizona Wilderness Coalition	P.O. Box 2741		Prescott	Arizona	86302		
Mr.	Charles	Wood	Chairman	Chemehuevi Indian Tribe	P.O. Box 1976		Havasula Lake	Californi	92363		

320

YUMA PROVING GROUND AGENCY SCOPING MEETING

[illegible]

22

YUMA PROVING GROUND AGENCY SCOPING MEETING

[illegible]

323

YUMA PROVING GROUND AGENCY SCOPING MEETING

[illegible]

**SIGN-IN SHEET
(PLEASE PRINT)**

June 14, 2011

YUMA PROVING GROUND PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

[illegible]

**SIGN-IN SHEET
(PLEASE PRINT)**

June 15, 2011

**YUMA PROVING GROUND
PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING**

[illegible]

Welcome to the Yuma Proving Ground

OPEN HOUSE

Scoping Meeting

Please sign in and take your time to view the informational exhibits.
Staff (with name tags) are available to answer your questions.

We appreciate your valuable time spent with us this evening.

YOUR OPINIONS ARE IMPORTANT.

**Please complete a comment card before you leave to
help guide the direction of this proposed project.**

For more information or to express your
opinions on this project, please contact:

Sergio Obregon

National Environmental Policy Act Coordinator

U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground

IMWE-YMA-PWE

301 C Street, Yuma, Arizona 85365-9498

email: ypgnepa@conus.army.mil

By phone contact **Chuck Wullenjohn** at (928) 328-6189 from 6:30 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Thursday.



What is an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)?

The **National Environmental Policy Act** requires federal agencies to prepare an **EIS** to assess the environmental impacts of federal actions that could significantly affect the human environment.*

***The human environment includes...**Land, Air, Water, Living Organisms, and Cultural Resources.

NEPA requires federal agencies to consider the social and environmental impacts of federal projects. It also requires that the public be allowed to participate in the decision making process.

NEPA allows for multiple level of analysis with an EIS being the most detailed. One of the initial steps in an EIS is to conduct Scoping Meetings.

An EIS document describes the effects from the proposed federal action as well as those from alternative actions that were considered. It also presents information on mitigation to reduce any impacts.*

*** An Impact is...** A change or consequence that results from an activity, it can be positive, negative or both. It may be mitigated to lessen or remove the impact.

How Do I Submit Comments?

Comments can be provided in person to the court reporter or in writing via the comment forms provided at this meeting. During the initial scoping period which ends on June 30, 2011, additional comments can be submitted via mail or email to:

Comments can be submitted to:

Sergio Obregon

National Environmental Policy Act Coordinator

U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground

IMWE-YMA-PWE

301 C Street, Yuma, Arizona 85365-9498

email:ypgnepa@conus.army.mil

What is a Scoping Meeting?

Scoping Meetings provide the opportunity for the public and other government agencies to gather information and provide formal oral or written comments on-the-record. Comments received during the scoping meeting will be included in the official public record along with an official response to each comment.

What is the Next Step?

After the scoping period, YPG will consider the public and agency input and prepare the Preliminary Draft PDEIS. Additional opportunities for public involvement will occur during the formal public review period for the Draft PDEIS. This public review period will last 30 days and will include a public hearing for additional public comment. The Final EIS and all comments and responses on the Draft EIS will be made available to the public.



What will this PDPEIS address?

WHAT will this PDPEIS Address?

This Preliminary Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PDPEIS) will address implementation of the Real Property Master Plan, which includes:

- Construction and demolition of facilities and infrastructure
- Changes to testing and training activities
- Changes to testing and training areas

The PDPEIS addresses two types of actions:

- Short-term, well-defined actions that would be implemented without additional NEPA analysis once a decision is made
- Long-term, less well-defined actions that would occur later in time and would receive additional site-specific NEPA analysis prior to project implementation

Why is this a Programmatic EIS?

This is a programmatic EIS because some activities are evaluated broadly and will require additional focused NEPA analysis prior to implementation.

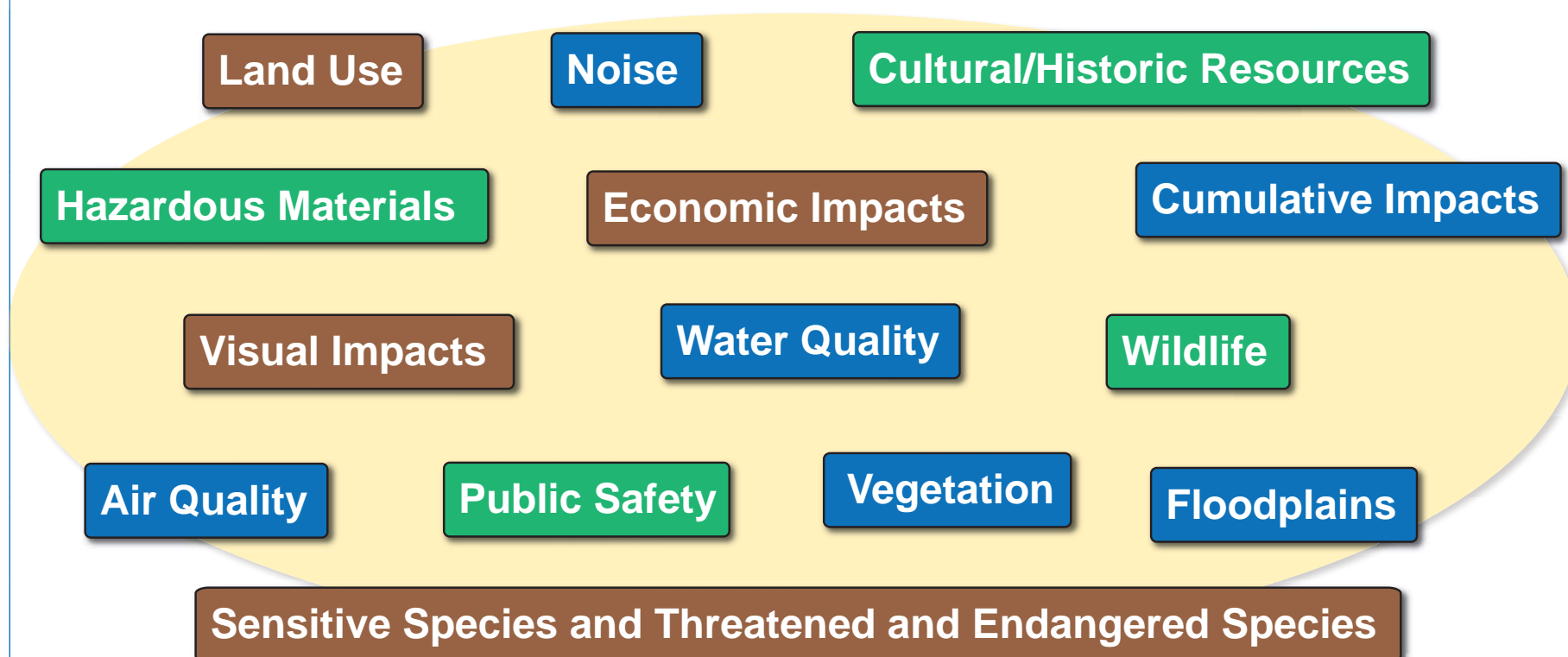
The broad analysis in this document will form the basis for Subsequent NEPA analysis through a process called tiering.



NEPA and Social, Economic, and Environmental Issues

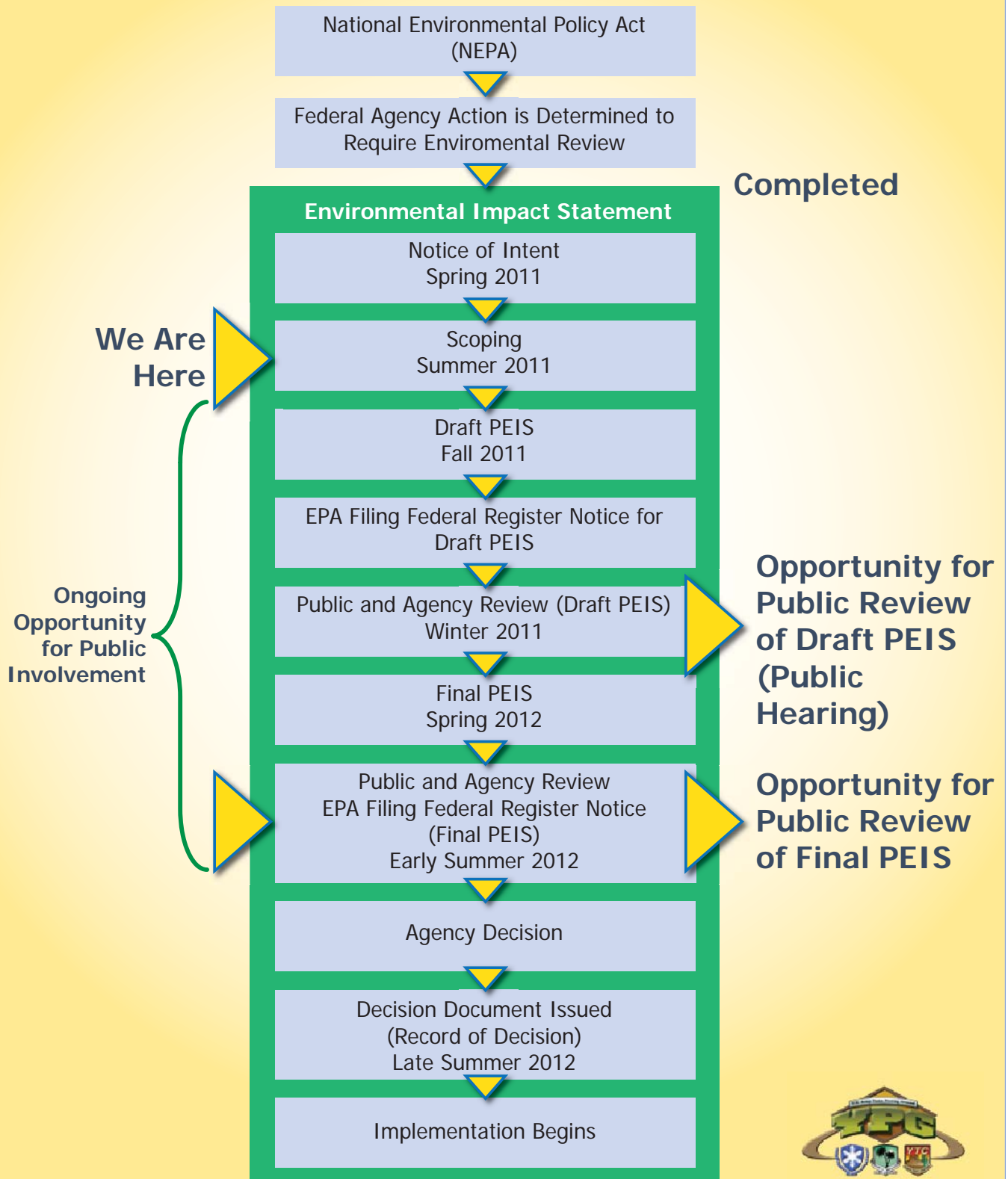
Because this is a federal action, the Yuma Proving Ground Programmatic EIS will consider the potential impacts of considered alternatives. YPG will avoid, minimize, and mitigate potential adverse impacts to the extent practicable.

Typical resource areas evaluated include:



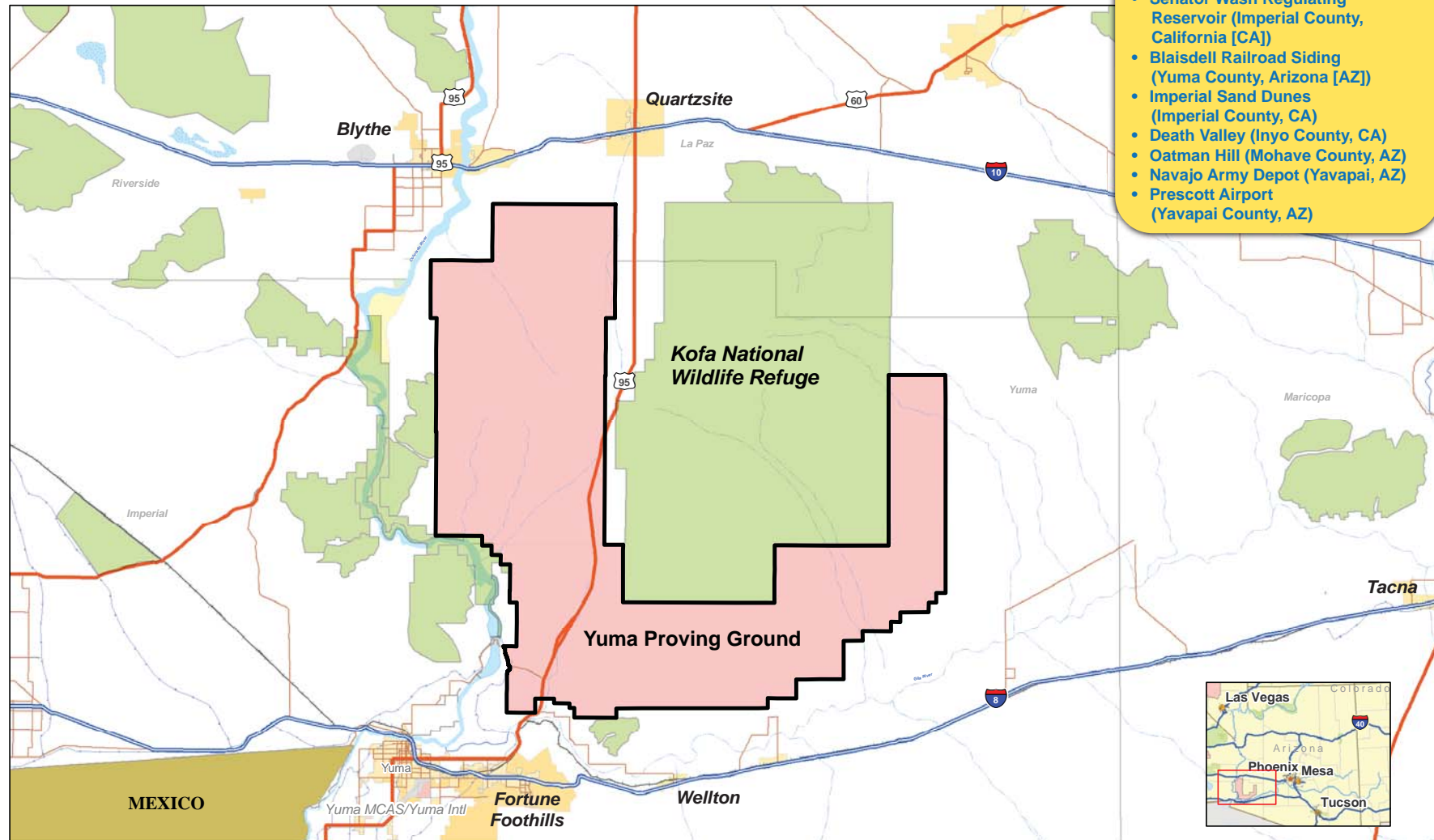
Schedule and Opportunities for Public Comment NEPA Process

Federal Environmental Review Process



Project Location

For Planning Purposes Only



Off-post locations not included in this Programmatic EIS

- Senator Wash Regulating Reservoir (Imperial County, California [CA])
- Blaisdell Railroad Siding (Yuma County, Arizona [AZ])
- Imperial Sand Dunes (Imperial County, CA)
- Death Valley (Inyo County, CA)
- Oatman Hill (Mohave County, AZ)
- Navajo Army Depot (Yavapai, AZ)
- Prescott Airport (Yavapai County, AZ)



Proposed Action

Activities Under Consideration

Under the Proposed Action, YPG will continue to operate as multipurpose installation that serves a broad customer base. Activities anticipated at YPG include:

1. New Construction and Demolition of Facilities and Infrastructure
 - Buildings
 - Runways/Helipads
 - Utilities
2. Modified/Increased Testing
 - New sensors and systems
 - Increased range and power of weapons
 - Improvements in vehicle systems
 - Combat vehicles
3. Modified/Increased Training
4. Weapons Firing/Impact Areas
 - Small Arms/Inert
 - High Explosive
 - Gun Positions



Purpose and Need

Purpose of the Proposed Action

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to enable YPG to continue to meet its military mission by providing adequate facilities and infrastructure for:

- testing military ground and aerial vehicle systems
- testing weapons, ammunition, sensors, and guidance systems
- provide realistic military training
- provide for private industry partnerships

Need for the Proposed Action

The Proposed Action would ensure the readiness of U.S. forces and materiel to meet the demands of hot arid environment theaters around the world. The project will allow YPG to maintain a facility capable of state of the art testing of military ground and aerial vehicle systems, weapons, munitions, sensors, and guidance systems; to provide realistic training, and to allow flexibility to enter into Army/private industry projects.



Natural Resources



Bienvenido a la reunión de exploración del ejército de los Estados Unidos de *Yuma Proving Ground* para la Declaración de Impacto Ambiental Programático

El ejército agradece su asistencia y sus opiniones. Por favor repase los carteles en secuencia y discuta sus preguntas e interés con los miembros del proyecto. Comentarios de ámbito público serán solicitados hasta el 30 de junio de 2011 y pueden entregarse con el taquígrafo de la corte (reportero de la corte) en la estación final. El ejército también aceptará la opinión del público durante todo el desarrollo de la Declaración de Impacto Ambiental Programático (PEIS, por sus siglas en inglés).

Estación # 1 proporciona el formato de la reunión y registración.

Esta hoja de datos pretende ofrecerle a usted un entendimiento de lo que se propone en *Yuma Proving Ground* (YPG), el porqué su opinión es importante, y cómo guiarse en esta reunión de ámbito público.

Estación # 2 proporciona una visión general del proyecto.

El objetivo de la Acción Propuesta es que YPG siga cumpliendo con su misión militar proporcionando instalaciones adecuadas e infraestructura para probar sistemas y material militar, proporcionar entrenamiento militar realista y prever asociaciones con la industria privada.

Para que YPG continúe preparando a las fuerzas estadounidenses y material que cumpla con las demandas en ambientes áridos y calientes alrededor del mundo, se propone lo siguiente:

- ♦ Demolición de estructuras obsoletas
- ♦ Construcción de instalaciones e infraestructura
- ♦ Modificar o aumentar las pruebas
- ♦ Modificar o aumentar el entrenamiento
- ♦ Ubicaciones nuevas de disparo de armas
- ♦ Expansión de áreas de impacto de municiones

Estación # 3 proporciona información sobre la NEPA y EIS.

El proceso de exploración oficialmente solicita su opinión a las partes interesadas en las actividades previstas. La Ley Nacional de Política Ambiental (NEPA, por sus siglas en inglés) requiere que las agencias preparen una Declaración de Impacto Ambiental (EIS, por sus siglas en inglés) para evaluar los impactos ambientales de las acciones

federales que podrían afectar significativamente el medio ambiente humano. Para YPG, el ejército preparará un EIS programático (PEIS en lugar de un EIS estándar) porque algunas actividades requerirán un análisis más centrado en la NEPA antes de su implementación. Planteará la construcción, demolición, decisiones a corto plazo, las decisiones a largo plazo y cambios a las pruebas y actividades de entrenamiento. Versiones borrador y finales del PEIS estarán disponibles al público para su revisión antes de tomar una decisión.

Estación # 4 se centra en cuestiones de recursos.

El ejército está buscando información sobre cuestiones tales como los recursos culturales, energía y utilidades, residuos peligrosos y materiales peligrosos, uso de la tierra, ruido, seguridad, terreno, vegetación, recursos visuales, vida silvestre y especies en amenaza y peligro de extinción. Otras cuestiones adicionales se incluyen en esta estación.

Estación # 5 proporciona un reportero de la corte para anotar sus comentarios verbales.

Esperamos que esta reunión ayude a aclarar sus preguntas e intereses que le gustaría ver resueltos en el análisis ambiental. Por favor proporcione sus comentarios al reportero de la corte. También puede enviar sus comentarios por escrito por medio de correo o por correo electrónico a:

Sergio Obregon

Coordinador de la Ley Nacional de Política Ambiental
U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground
IMWE-YMA-PWE

301 C Street

Yuma, AZ 85365-9498

Correo electrónico: ypgnepa@conus.army.mil

Todos los comentarios que sean recibidos con fecha hasta el día 30 de junio de 2011 recibirán una respuesta en el borrador del PEIS. Para preguntas generales sobre el proyecto, por favor llame a **Sergio Obregon** al (928) 328-2015 de 6:30 AM a 5:00 P.M., del lunes a jueves.



Welcome to the U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground

Public Scoping Meeting for the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement

The Army appreciates your attendance and welcomes your input. Please review the posters in sequence and discuss your questions and concerns with project team members. Public scoping comments will be solicited through June 30, 2011 and can be submitted at this meeting through the court reporter at the final station. The Army will also accept public input throughout the development of the PEIS.

Station #1 provides the meeting format and sign-in.

This fact sheet is intended to provide you with an understanding of what is being proposed at YPG, why your input is important, and how to navigate this open house-style public scoping meeting.

Station #2 provides a project overview.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to enable Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) to continue to meet its military mission by providing adequate facilities and infrastructure to test military materials and systems, provide realistic military training, and provide for private industry partnerships.

In order for YPG to continue to ready U.S. forces and materiel to meet the demands of hot arid environment theaters around the world, the following is being proposed:

- ◆ Demolition of obsolete structures
- ◆ Construction of facilities and Infrastructure
- ◆ Modified or Increased Testing
- ◆ Modified or Increased Training
- ◆ New Weapons firing locations
- ◆ Expanded Munitions Impact Areas

Station #3 provides NEPA and EIS information.

The scoping process officially seeks input from stakeholders on the intended activities. The National Environmental Policy Act requires agencies to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to assess the environmental impacts of federal actions that could significantly affect the human environment. For YPG, the Army will prepare a programmatic EIS

(PEIS rather than a standard EIS) because some activities will require additional focused NEPA analysis prior to implementation. It will address construction, demolition, short-term decisions, long-term decisions, and changes to testing and training activities. Draft and final versions of the PEIS will be made available to the public for review before a decision is made.

Station #4 focuses on resource issues.

The Army is seeking input on issues such as cultural resources, energy/utilities, hazardous materials/hazardous waste, land use, noise, safety, soils, vegetation, visual resources, wildlife, and sensitive species. Additional issues are included at Station #4.

Station #5 provides a court reporter to record your verbal comments. We hope this meeting helps to clarify your questions and concerns that you would like to see addressed in the environmental analysis. Please provide your comments to the court reporter. Or you may submit written comments by mail or email to:

Sergio Obregon

National Environmental Policy Act Coordinator
U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground,
IMWE-YMA-PWE
301 C Street
Yuma, AZ 85365-9498
email: ypgnepa@conus.army.mil

All comments received by June 30, 2011 will receive a response in the Draft PEIS. For general questions about the project, please contact **Chuck Wullenjohn** at (928) 328-6189 from 6:30 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Thursday.



AFFIDAVIT OF COURT REPORTER

In the matter of:

UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON YUMA PROVING GROUND
PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT RESULTING
FROM IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REAL PROPERTY MASTER PLAN
AT YUMA PROVING GROUND NORTHEAST OF YUMA, ARIZONA.


STATE OF ARIZONA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF YUMA)

I, MICHELE E. BALMER, Certified Reporter No. 50489 for the
State of Arizona, do hereby certify:

1. That on June 14, 2011, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., I was
present at the public meeting held at the YPG Desert Breeze
Travel Camp Community Center, Yuma, Arizona, and that no
public comment was received;
2. That on June 15, 2011, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., I was
present at the public meeting held at the Yuma Main
Library, 2951 South 21st Drive, Yuma, Arizona, and that no
public comment was received;

DATED at Yuma, Arizona this 17th day of June, 2011.

YUMA COURT REPORTERS, LLC
220 South Second Avenue
Yuma, Arizona 85364
(928) 782-7591
yumacourtreporters.com


MICHELE E. BALMER
Arizona Certified
Reporter No. 50489

Scoping Report

Introduction

A Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) is being prepared by the U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground (YPG), in accordance with Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), to analyze the environmental impacts resulting from implementation of the Real Property Master Plan (RPMP) at the U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) northeast of Yuma, Arizona.

Scoping meetings were conducted to allow stakeholders and the public to identify significant concerns or issues they have with the Proposed Actions described in the PEIS or to suggest other alternatives to the Proposed Action which should be considered. This report includes a synopsis of the scoping meetings, a listing of the concerns and issues that were raised, an evaluation of those issues, and recommendations for addressing those concerns and issues.

Meeting Synopsis

Four meetings were held as part of the scoping process. The project was presented to potentially interested tribal governments on June 8 as part of a larger tribal meeting at YPG. A scoping meeting was held at 3:00PM at YPG on June 14 for the state and federal agencies and local governmental entities with potential interest in the EIS process. The Arizona Fish and Game Department (FGD) and the Laguna Natural Resource Conservation District (NRCD) also attended the meeting, as well as representatives of the Colorado River Indian Tribe. Two public meetings were held for citizens on June 14 and June 15. Both meetings took place from 6:00-8:00PM. One meeting was conducted on YPG and was open to the public, and one was held at the Yuma public library. Representatives from the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), FGD, and City of Yuma who were unable to attend the June 14 meeting attended the June 15 meeting.

Notifications for the agency meeting were sent via two letters to individual agencies, political representatives, and tribal governments. Notifications to the public occurred via a Notice of Intent published on May 25, 2011, in the Federal Register, a press release in both English and Spanish, and a Public Notice advertisement published in local news publications, including the Yuma Sun Newspaper, Bajo El Sol (Spanish language newspaper), Quartzite Desert Messenger, and the Outpost (YPG base publication). A press release was also distributed to area radio and television outlets.

Summary

Several issues were raised by stakeholders who attended the scoping meetings. At the agency scoping meeting at YPG on June 14 Troy Smith, of the Arizona FGD, mentioned several issues his agency typically considers with projects. These include:

- Public access to hunting areas, or changes to hunting seasons
- Impacts to sensitive habitats such as desert washes, mesquite bosques, dunes, mountains, or big horn sheep habitat
- Cumulative impacts that would occur on a large scale to wildlife over the next 20 years
- Interruptions to the survey periods of sheep and mule deer
- Any activities that might occur in waters used by wildlife
- Any activities that might impact or break linkages of habitat (such as roads)
- Activities that may spread invasive species

- Activities that would impact the ability of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to manage wild horses or burros

Once the Draft EIS is prepared, Arizona FGD would like the opportunity to review the document.

It was noted that BLM is currently managing an experimental population of Sonoran pronghorn which will eventually be released in the YPG vicinity.

Sheryl Christenson, from the Laguna NRCD, indicated several concerns on behalf of her organization. She expressed interest in any construction projects, including utility lines, which may impact farmland adjacent to YPG, minimization of PM-10 for air quality considerations, and dust control measures.

Elliott George Ray, a representative from the CRIT Museum at the Colorado River Indian Tribe, indicated that they would like to review the materials and provide written comments if they identified any concerns.

It was suggested by attendees that the following be included on stakeholder lists for the project going forward:

- The Welton Mohawk Irrigation and Drainage District
- The Barry Goldwater Range NRCD
- Nearby wildlife refuges
- Winter visitors who frequent the Quartzite area
- The local Yuma Valley Rod and Gun Club

In addition to the cumulative impacts concerns raised by Arizona FGD, several other projects were discussed which stakeholders attending the meeting thought should be considered for cumulative impacts. They include:

- Proposed solar plants at White Wing Ranch near Palomas Mountains and The Quartzite Solar Project (10 miles north of Quartzite). A draft EIS has recently been published for the project near Quartzite.
- Proposed 500 kV transmission line planned for 2014, to be constructed by APS
- Widening project for Highway 95, which has been taken off the 5-year short-term plan and has been postponed to a 2015-2016 at the earliest but will include a bridge over Fortuna Wash.
- Secure border projects-communication tower projects at various locations along the border.

The public scoping meetings were held on June 14 and 15 at YPG and at the public library. One person attended the meeting on June 14, and four people attended the meeting on June 15. Representatives from the USFWS, FGD, and City of Yuma were among the attendees of the June 15 public meeting.

The City of Yuma requested information on any actions proposed in the PEIS that would extend beyond the current boundaries of YPD or any proposed expansion of the installation. The USFWS representative expressed concern with the lack of a buffer between one of the proposed impact areas in Kofa and the adjacent NWR.

Testimony

Neither the public meeting on June 14 nor the public meeting on June 15 produced any public comments. The court reporter affidavit of the meeting is presented in Appendix A.

Conclusions and Recommendations

No significant issues or concerns were raised by the attendees of the meetings. Where practicable, issues raised by attendees and projects mentioned for potential cumulative impacts were incorporated into the Preliminary Draft PEIS. All attendees expressed interest in receiving a copy of the draft document once it has been prepared. At that time (i.e. once details of the projects are available), additional comments on the project are expected.

Two issues were raised which will require additional consideration by YPG during development of the PEIS:

- 1). USFWS expressed concern with the lack of buffer between a proposed impact area and the adjacent wildlife refuge. Adjustment of the boundaries of the proposed impact area should be considered.
- 2). The scoping meeting was held during the summer when many seasonal residents are not present in Quartzite. An effort should be made to hold the next opportunity for formal public comment, the public hearing on the draft document, during the winter.

Appendix A – Transcript of Meeting

AFFIDAVIT OF COURT REPORTER

In the matter of:

UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON YUMA PROVING GROUND
PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT RESULTING
FROM IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REAL PROPERTY MASTER PLAN
AT YUMA PROVING GROUND NORTHEAST OF YUMA, ARIZONA.

STATE OF ARIZONA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF YUMA)

I, MICHELE E. BALMER, Certified Reporter No. 50489 for the
State of Arizona, do hereby certify:

1. That on June 14, 2011, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., I was
present at the public meeting held at the YPG Desert Breeze
Travel Camp Community Center, Yuma, Arizona, and that no
public comment was received;
2. That on June 15, 2011, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., I was
present at the public meeting held at the Yuma Main
Library, 2951 South 21st Drive, Yuma, Arizona, and that no
public comment was received;

DATED at Yuma, Arizona this 17th day of June, 2011.

YUMA COURT REPORTERS, LLC
220 South Second Avenue
Yuma, Arizona 85364
(928) 782-7591
yumacourtreporters.com


MICHELE E. BALMER
Arizona Certified
Reporter No. 50489

Appendix B – Agency Meeting – June 14th List of Attendees

Name	Agency	Address	Phone	Email
Kim Maloney	KMEC Consulting, LLC.	10709 E 34 th Pl, Yuma, AZ	328-3771	kmaloney@kmec-llc.com
Lesley Walther	Zia Engineering	2575 W. 24 th St Apt 134	928-XXX-2630	Walther.lesley@gmail.com
Troy Smith	AFGD	9140 E 28 th St, Yuma AZ	928-341-4068	trsmith@azgfd.gov
Chuck Harper	YPG PEO		928-328-2635	Charles.G.Harper@us.army.mil
Lisa Swick	CRIT Museum Colorado River Indian Tribe	1007 AZ Ave	928-669-8790	CRIT.Museum@yahoo.com
Elliott George Ray	CRIT Museum Colorado River Indian Tribe			
Sheryl Christenson	Laguna NRCD			

Appendix C – Public Meeting – June 14th List of Attendees

Name	Address	Phone	Email
Chris Hatch	972 Halo St, YPG, Yuma, AZ	328-668-	Christopher.f.hatch@us.army.mil

Appendix D – Public Meeting – June 15th List of Attendees

Name	Address	Phone	Email
Charles Ruerup	1129 Brangus Ave, Yuma AZ	928-750-3649	Charles.ruerup@us.army.mil
Noah Cullis	One City Plaza, City of Yuma, AZ	928-373-5000	Noah.cullins@yuma.az.gov
Bill Knowles	9140 E 25 th St, Yuma AZ	928-341-4047	bknowles@az.yuma.gov
Joseph Barnett	12435 E Patricia Dr, Yuma AZ	928-983-3371	Joseph.barnett@fws.gov

Appendix D – Meeting Notice

U.S. ARMY YUMA PROVING GROUND NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Chuck Wullenjohn
Public Affairs Office
Telephone: (928) 328-6189

Yuma, Arizona - The United States Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground intends to prepare a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS), in accordance with Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), to analyze the environmental impacts resulting from implementation of the Real Property Master Plan at the Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) northeast of Yuma, Arizona. The Notice of Intent (NOI) for the PEIS was published in the Federal Register on May 25, 2011.

The project will allow YPG to maintain a facility capable of state of the art testing of military ground and aerial vehicle systems, weapons, munitions, sensors, and guidance systems; to provide realistic training, and to allow flexibility to enter into legally permissible Army/private industry projects where such projects are compatible with the military mission of YPG. Renewable energy initiatives will be discussed in the PEIS, but project-specific NEPA analysis will be required prior to implementing specific renewable energy initiatives. YPG would undertake construction and demolition projects (primarily within cantonment areas), continue existing testing and training activities, and expand some testing and training areas and activities. No expansion of YPG would result from the proposed action. New construction would include a variety of facilities to meet the demand and space needed to meet mission requirements.

A public meeting will be held on YPG from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at Building 6, the Desert Breeze Travel Camp Community Center, located on the main administrative area off of Imperial Dam Road on Tuesday June 14, 2011. A second public meeting will be held at the Yuma Public Library, 2951 South 21st Drive, Yuma AZ, 85364 on Wednesday June 15, 2011 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. Draft and final versions of the PEIS will be made available to the public for review and comment when completed. The scoping process officially begins with the publication of the NOI in the Federal Register. Public scoping comments will be solicited through June 30, 2011. YPG will also accept public input throughout the NEPA process. All interested parties are invited to attend the public meetings and to submit comments or questions by mail to Sergio Obregon, National Environmental Policy Act Coordinator, U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground, IMWE-YMA-PWE, 301 C Street, Yuma, Arizona 85365-9498, or e-mail ypgnepa@conus.army.mil. By phone, contact Chuck Wullenjohn at (928) 328-6189 from 6:30 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Thursday.

EJERCITO DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS DE YUMA PROVING GROUND COMUNICADO DE PRENSA

PARA DIFUSIÓN INMEDIATA

CONTACTO: Chuck Wullenjohn
Oficina de Asuntos Públicos
Teléfono: (928) 328-6189

Yuma, Arizona - El ejército de los Estados Unidos tiene la intención de preparar una Declaración de Programación de Impacto Ambiental (PEIS, por sus siglas en inglés) en conformidad con la Ley Nacional de Política Ambiental (NEPA, por sus siglas en inglés) para la adopción e implementación del Plan Maestro de Propiedad Real (RPMP, por sus siglas en inglés) en Yuma Proving Ground (YPG, por sus siglas en inglés), AZ. La PEIS analizará la propuesta de construcción, las pruebas y actividades de capacitación. Todas las acciones bajo consideración estarán dentro de los límites existentes de YPG.

Yuma Proving Ground es un desierto caliente y centro de evaluación esencial para la preparación militar. Abarca más de 1.300 de millas cuadradas con unos 350 días soleados y alrededor de tres pulgadas de lluvia al año. Ingenieros, científicos y personal técnico llevan a cabo pruebas en sus instalaciones de prueba y realizan más de 100 pruebas y evaluaciones en cualquier momento dado. También se discutirán iniciativas de energía renovable en la PEIS, pero el análisis de la NEPA específico del proyecto será necesario antes de la implementación de iniciativas de energía renovable específica.

Se invita al público a participar en el proceso de exploración para esta PEIS. Se programarán dos reuniones de exploración y alcance público después de la publicación de un Aviso de Intención (NOI, por sus siglas en inglés) en el Registro Federal. La notificación de las reuniones se anunciará en los medios locales. Todas las partes interesadas están invitadas a asistir a las reuniones públicas y a enviar comentarios o preguntas por correo a Sergio Obregon, Coordinador de la Ley Nacional de Política Ambiental a U.S Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground, IMWE-YMA-PWE, 301 C Street, Yuma, Arizona 85365-9498, o por correo electrónico al ypgnepa@conus.army.mil. Por teléfono, llame a Chuck Wullenjohn al (928) 328-6189 de 6:30 am a 5:00 pm, de lunes a jueves.

El proceso de exploración oficialmente comienza con la publicación de la NOI en el Registro Federal. Se solicitarán comentarios del público durante 30 días después de la publicación o hasta 15 días después de la última reunión, cualquiera que sea la fecha posterior. YPG también aceptará comentarios públicos durante todo el proceso de la NEPA.

-FIN

Education Division conducted a formal section 7 consultation under the ESA. On November 18, 2008, NMFS issued a Biological Opinion (2008 BiOp) and concluded that the issuance of an IHA is likely to affect, but not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of Steller sea lions. NMFS has also issued an incidental take statement (ITS) for Steller sea lions pursuant to section 7 of the ESA. The ITS contains reasonable and prudent measures for implementing terms and conditions to minimize the effects of this take. NMFS has reviewed the 2008 BiOp and determined that there is no new information regarding effects to Steller sea lions; the action has not been modified in a manner which would cause adverse effects not previously evaluated; there has been no new listing of species or no new designation of critical habitat that could be affected by the action; and the action will not exceed the extent or amount of incidental take authorized in the 2008 BiOp. Therefore, the proposed IHA does not require the reinitiation of Section 7 consultation under the ESA.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

To meet NMFS' NEPA requirements for the issuance of an IHA to PRBO, NMFS prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) in 2007 that was specific to seabird research activities on SEFI, WEI, ANI, and PRNS and evaluated the impacts on the human environment of NMFS' authorization of incidental Level B harassment resulting from seabird research in Central California. At that time, NMFS determined that conducting the seabird research would not have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment and issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and, therefore, it was not necessary to prepare an environmental impact statement for the issuance of an IHA to PRBO for this activity. In 2008, NMFS prepared a supplemental EA (SEA) titled "Supplemental Environmental Assessment for the Issuance of an Incidental Harassment Authorization to Take Marine Mammals by Harassment Incidental to Conducting Seabird and Pinniped Research in Central California and Environmental Assessment for the Continuation of Scientific Research on Pinnipeds in California Under Scientific Research Permit 373-1868-00," to address new available information regarding the effects of PRBO's seabird and pinniped research activities that may have cumulative impacts to the physical and biological environment. At that time, NMFS concluded that issuance of an IHA for the December

2008 through 2009 season would not significantly affect the quality of the human environment and issued a FONSI for the 2008 SEA regarding PRBO's activities. In conjunction with this year's application, NMFS has again reviewed the 2007 EA and the 2008 SEA and determined that there are no new direct, indirect or cumulative impacts to the human and natural environment associated with the IHA requiring evaluation in a supplemental EA and NMFS, therefore, reaffirms the 2008 FONSI. A copy of the EA, SEA, and the NMFS FONSI for this activity is available upon request (see ADDRESSES).

Dated: May 20, 2011.

James H. Lecky,

Director, Office of Protected Resources,
National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 2011-12978 Filed 5-24-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Real Property Master Plan Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement, at Yuma Proving Ground, Arizona

AGENCY: Department of the Army, DoD.
ACTION: Notice of Intent.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Army intends to prepare a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) to analyze the environmental impacts resulting from adoption and implementation of a Real Property Master Plan (RPMP), including test areas and training activities at Yuma Proving Ground.

ADDRESSES: For questions concerning the RPMP PEIS, please contact Mr. Sergio Obregon, U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground, National Environmental Policy Act Coordinator, IMWE-YMA-PWE, 301 C Street, Yuma, AZ 85365-9498. Written comments may be mailed to that address or e-mailed to ypgnepa@conus.army.mil.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Chuck Wullenjohn, Yuma Proving Ground Public Affairs Office, at (928) 328-6189 Monday through Thursday from 6:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Mountain Standard Time.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Yuma Proving Ground consists of approximately 840,000 acres of DoD-managed land in the Sonoran Desert in southwestern Arizona and occupies portions of Yuma and La Paz counties. The mission at Yuma Proving Ground is ensuring the readiness of U. S. forces

and materiel to perform in hot arid conditions around the world. This requires rigorous testing of ground and aerial vehicles, weapons, munitions, sensors, and guidance systems and realistic training. The U.S. has been engaged in hostile conflicts in environments similar to those found at Yuma Proving Ground, resulting in a need for increased testing of existing and developing military equipment, vehicles, and munitions under these environmental conditions. To meet these needs, the U.S. Army intends to prepare a RPMP PEIS at Yuma Proving Ground to analyze potential impacts from new construction, changes in testing and training, and activities conducted under private industry partnerships. Renewable energy initiatives will also be discussed in the PEIS, but project-specific NEPA analysis will be required prior to implementing specific renewable energy initiatives.

Alternatives will consist of alternative siting locations for certain activities within Yuma Proving Ground and different magnitudes of implementation with regard to spatial extent of potential impacts and frequency and duration of specific events. The EIS will also analyze the No Action Alternative, under which no new construction would occur and there would be no changes in testing and training activities conducted at Yuma Proving Ground.

No changes are proposed to activities conducted at off-post areas in Arizona and California that are used for specific testing activities under conditions not found at Yuma Proving Ground. Therefore, these areas would not be considered in the development of alternatives for the RPMP PEIS.

All activities under consideration would be conducted within the boundaries of the installation. Resource areas that may be impacted include air quality, airspace, traffic, noise, water resources, biological resources, cultural resources, socioeconomic, utilities, land use, and solid and hazardous materials/waste. Impacts to these resources may occur as a result of converting existing land use to support military testing and training or from increasing the scope or magnitude of testing and training activities. The analysis will also consider the potential for cumulative environmental effects.

The public will be invited to participate in the scoping process to provide input on the proposed action and alternatives, which will be evaluated in the PEIS. After publication of the Notice of Intent to prepare the PEIS, the Army will schedule at least two public meetings to provide information about the proposed action

and alternatives and to solicit input and feedback from the public on issues to be addressed in the PEIS. Meetings will be announced in local media. The public will also be invited to review and comment on the Draft PEIS when it is released. Comments from the public will be considered before any decision is made regarding implementing the proposed action.

Brenda S. Bowen,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 2011-12914 Filed 5-24-11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-08-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers

Public Scoping Meeting and Preparation of Environmental Impact Statement for Luce Bayou Interbasin Transfer Project in Liberty County and Harris County, TX

AGENCY: Department of the Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District, has received a permit application for a Department of the Army Permit pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403) and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344) from the Coastal Water Authority (SWG-2009-00188) for the proposed Coastal Water Authority's Luce Bayou Interbasin Transfer Project located in eastern Liberty County with the 26.5-mile corridor extending southwestward from the Trinity River to a discharge point near the confluence of Luce Bayou with Lake Houston. The primary Federal involvement associated with the proposed action is the discharge or dredged or fill material into waters of the United States, including jurisdictional wetlands, and the construction of structures that may affect navigable waters. Federal authorizations for the proposed project would constitute a "major federal action." Based on the potential impacts, both individually and cumulatively, the Corps intends to prepare an Environmental Statement (EIS) in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act to render a final decision on the permit applications.

The Corps' decision will be to either issue, issue with modification or deny Department of the Army permits for the proposed action. The EIS will assess the potential social, economic and

environmental impacts of the construction and operation of the interbasin conveyance, associated facilities, and appurtenances and is intended to be sufficient in scope to address Federal, State and local requirements, environmental issues concerning the proposed action, and permit reviews.

DATES: The scoping period will commence with the publication of this notice. The formal scoping period will end 60 days after the publication of this notice. Comments regarding issues relative to the proposed project should be received.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any of the following methods: *Mail:* Jayson M. Hudson, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Branch, P.O. Box 1229, Galveston, TX 77553-1229; *Fax:* (409) 766-3931 or *E-mail:* Jayson.m.hudson@usace.army.mil. Emailed comments, including attachments, should be provided in .doc, .docx, .pdf or .txt formats. Documents pertinent to the proposed project may be examined at <http://www.swg.usace.army.mil/reg/eis.asp>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Jayson Hudson, (409) 766-3108.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Galveston District intends to prepare a DEIS on the proposed Luce Bayou Interbasin Transfer Project which is the proposed transfer of water from the Trinity River in Liberty County to Lake Houston in Harris County, TX. The Coastal Water Authority proposed this project and is the applicant for the Department of the Army permit (DA) SWG-2009-00188.

1. *Project Background:* The Coastal Water Authority is proposing to convey up to 400 million gallons of water per day (MGD) under gravity in accordance with the City of Houston's existing water rights permit from the Trinity River to Lake Houston, a distance of approximately 26.5 miles. The Trinity River water would be conveyed from the proposed pump station through large diameter pipelines to a sediment storage and settling basin and then through an earthen canal to outfall at the Lake Houston discharge point. The canal would have side berms and there would be an access road, drainage ditches, and perimeter fencing surrounding the water conveyance canal. The proposed project consists of the following:

a. A new water pumping station will be constructed on the Trinity River at Capers Ridge approximately 10 miles north of Dayton, TX.

b. Dual, 108-inch diameter force mains will be constructed extending from the Capers Ridge pump station

approximately 3.5 miles to the west and southwest to outfall to the sedimentation settling basin.

c. An approximate 20-acre sedimentation settling and storage basin.

d. An approximate 23.5 mile clay-lined earthen canal with 4:1 side slopes within a 300-foot easement that would include access roads, berms, chain link perimeter fencing, flow control structures, and metering stations.

e. Box culverts at canal and roadway crossings and multiple bawl-ground siphons constructed to facilitate wildlife movement and maintain existing hydrology along the canal conveyance system.

f. An approximate 10-acre maintenance facility located approximately 6 miles north of Dayton, TX.

g. Discharge structure along the southeastern shoreline of Lake Houston.

2. *Scoping and Public Involvement Process:* A Public Notice was published on April 19, 2010 to initiate the public scoping process for the proposed project. At that time, based on information provided by the Applicant, a preliminary review indicated that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was not required. However, based on continuing permit assessment and information brought forth during the initial coordination process, areas of potential significant impact on the human environment have been identified. Therefore, the EIS process is being implemented so that the permit application can be fully evaluated and a permit decision can be made. All comments received to date, including those provided for review during the initial scoping process, will be considered by the Galveston District during EIS preparation. The purpose of the EIS scoping meeting is to gather information on the subjects to be studied in detail by the EIS.

3. *Purpose and Need.* The basic purpose of the proposed action is to provide drinking water for the City of Houston and surrounding area. The overall purpose is to provide drinking water utilizing water rights currently held by the City of Houston in the Trinity River. The Corps recognizes that there is a public and private need for drinking water.

4. *Alternatives.* An evaluation of alternatives to the Applicant's preferred alternative initially being considered includes a No Action alternative, alternatives that would avoid, minimize and compensate for impacts to the aquatic environment within the project right-of-way, alternatives that would avoid, minimize and compensate for



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, YUMA
301 C STREET
YUMA AZ 85365-9498

April 24, 2012

Environmental Sciences Division

Ms. Caroline Antone
Cultural Resources Manager
Ak-Chin Indian Community
42507 West Peters and Nall Road
Maricopa, Arizona 85239

Dear Ms. Antone:

U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground (USAG YPG) has prepared a Real Property Master Plan (RPMP) that will allow the Garrison to maintain a facility capable of state of the art testing on military ground, to provide realistic training, and to allow flexibility to enter into legally permissible Army/private industry projects where such projects are compatible with the military mission. Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) would undertake construction and demolition projects (primarily within cantonment areas), continue existing testing and training activities, and expand some testing and training areas and activities within the installation boundaries. No expansion of YPG would result from the proposed action. The purpose of this letter is to provide an update on project milestones and upcoming meetings.

U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground is preparing a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) in accordance with Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The purpose of the PEIS is to analyze the environmental impacts resulting from implementation of the RPMP at the USAG YPG northeast of Yuma, Arizona.

A Notice of Intent to prepare a PEIS was published on May 25, 2011 in the Federal Register. Subsequent to this publication, YPG presented the PEIS concept at a Tribal Consultation Meeting at YPG on June 8, 2011. An initial scoping meeting for interested agencies and tribes was conducted on the afternoon of June 14 at YPG's Main Administrative Area, with initial public scoping meetings held later that evening and the following day. Since that time, YPG has been finalizing the RPMP and working to identify reasonable alternatives that would meet mission requirements.

We anticipate initiating the Section 106 consultation process, in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), during the summer of 2012. During this phase of consultation USAG YPG plans to focus on individual undertakings covered in the RPMP that are (1) within previously disturbed areas, (2) within areas that have had previous Section 106 consultation, and (3) within areas that are currently being surveyed prior to completion of the PEIS. For other undertakings included in the RPMP where the effects of its implementation on historic properties cannot be fully determined at this time (e.g., undertakings that span multiple years), USAG YPG is drafting a Programmatic Agreement per 36 CFR 800.14(b)(3). Initial Section 106 consultation meetings are anticipated to be held this summer.

We also anticipate inviting you or your representative to participate in Government-to-Government meetings to obtain your feedback on the Proposed Action and alternative actions presented in the PEIS. Following the Government-to-Government consultation identified above, the Army will make the PEIS available to the public for a 45-day review. The Army will continue Government-to-Government consultation throughout this period, as necessary.

We look forward to meeting with you in the near future and welcome your comments. Please direct comments or questions regarding the PEIS to the NEPA Coordinator, IMYM-PWE, U.S. Army Garrison Yuma, 301 C Street, Yuma AZ 85365-9498, facsimile (928) 328-6696, telephone (928) 328-2015, or email ypgnepa@conus.army.mil, or any questions regarding Section 106 consultation to the Cultural Resources Manager, Dr. Meg McDonald, (928) 328-2520, alison.m.mcdonald.civ@mail.mil.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard T. Martin", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Richard T. Martin
Garrison Manager

Distribution List for April 24, 2012 Tribal Letter

Native American

Ak-Chin Indian Community
Chemehuevi Indian Tribe
Cocopah Indian Tribe
Colorado River Indian Tribes
Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation
Fort Mojave Indian Tribe
Gila River Indian Community Council
Quechan Indian Tribe
Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
San Carlos Apache Tribe
Hopi Tribe
Tohono O'Odham Nation
Yavapai-Apache Nation
Yavapai-Prescott Tribe



LeRoy N. Shingoitewa
CHAIRMAN

Herman G. Honanie
VICE-CHAIRMAN

May 7, 2012

Richard T. Martin, Garrison Manager
Attention: NEPA Coordinator IMYM-PWE; Dr. Meg McDonald, Cultural Resources Manager
Department of the Army, US Army Installation Management Command
Headquarters, United States Army Garrison, Yuma
301 C Street
Yuma, Arizona 85365-9498

Dear Mr. Martin,

This letter is in response to your correspondence April 24, 2012, regarding Yuma Proving Ground having prepared a Real Property Master Plan. The Hopi Tribe claims cultural affiliation to prehistoric cultural groups in Arizona, including the Hohokam prehistoric cultural group in southern Arizona. The Hopi Cultural Preservation Office supports the identification and avoidance of prehistoric archaeological sites, and we consider the prehistoric archaeological sites of our ancestors to be "footprints" and Traditional Cultural Properties. Therefore, we appreciate Yuma Proving Ground's continuing solicitation of our input and your efforts to address our concerns.

The Hopi Cultural Preservation Office has stated that we appreciate that the Yuma Proving Ground is identifying historic properties in potential use areas, and we are interested in consulting on any proposal that has the potential to adversely affect prehistoric cultural resources on the Yuma Proving Ground. In the enclosed letter dated May 9, 2011, we stated we are interested in receiving a copy for review and comment of the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement, and the updates on cultural and natural resource management on these lands.

We appreciate that Yuma Proving Ground is extremely interested in avoiding and not damaging places of tribal concern and significance. We understand National Historic Preservation Act consultations on the implementation of Real Property Master Plan will begin with individual undertakings that are within previously disturbed areas, areas that have had previous consultation, and areas that are currently being surveyed. We also understand that a Programmatic Agreement is being drafted for other areas.

Therefore, we look forward to continuing consultation on the implementation of the Real Property Master Plan, including being provided with copies of the draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement, draft Programmatic Agreement, and cultural resource survey reports for review and comment. If prehistoric sites are identified that will be adversely affected by project activities, we request consultation on any proposed treatment plans as well. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Terry Morgart at the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office at 928-734-3619 or tmorgart@hopi.nsn.us. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Leigh J. Kuwanwisiwma, Director
Hopi Cultural Preservation Office

xc: Arizona State Historic Preservation Office



Received from Tribal Admin _____

Mailed _____ (initial & date)

Faxed _____ (initial & date)

SAN CARLOS APACHE TRIBE
Historic Preservation & Archaeology Department
P.O. Box 0
San Carlos Arizona 85550
Tel. (928) 475-5797, Fax (928) 475-2423

Tribal Consultation Response Letter

Date: 06-07-2012

Contact Name: meg mcdonald alison.m.mcdonald.civ@mail.mil (928) 328-6696

Company: US Army Installation Management Command Headquarters US Army Garrison Yuma

Address: 301 C Street, Yuma, Arizona 85365-9498

Project Name/#: YPG has prepared a Real Property Master Plan that will allow the Garrison to maintain a facility capable of state of the art testing on military ground

Dear Sir or Madam:

Under Section 106 and 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act, we are replying to the above referenced project. Please see the appropriate marked circle, including the signatures of Vernelda Grant, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO), and the concurrence of the Chairman of the San Carlos Apache Tribe:

☐ NO INTEREST/NO FURTHER CONSULTATION _____ (sign & date)

I have determined that there is not a likelihood of eligible properties of religious and cultural significance to the San Carlos Apache Tribe in the proposed project area.

☒ CONCURRENCE WITH REPORT FINDINGS & THANK YOU VG Grant 07/11/12 (sign & date)

☒ REQUEST ADDITIONAL INFORMATION VG Grant 07/11/12 (sign & date)

I require additional information in order to provide a finding of effect for this proposed undertaking, i.e.

Project description ___ Map ___ Photos ___ Other SCAT-THPO looking forward to

☐ NO EFFECT _____ (sign & date) consulting w/ YPG in near future.

I have determined that there are no properties of religious and cultural significance to the San Carlos Apache Tribe that are listed on the National Register within the area of potential effect or that the proposed project will have no effect on any such properties that may be present.

☐ NO ADVERSE EFFECT _____ (sign & date)

Properties of cultural and religious significance within the area of effect have been identified that are eligible for listing in the National Register for which there would be no adverse effect as a result of the proposed project.

☐ ADVERSE EFFECT _____ (sign & date)

I have identified properties of cultural and religious significance within the area of potential effect that are eligible for listing in the National Register. I believe the proposed project would cause an adverse effect on these properties. Please contact the THPO for further discussion.

STIPULATION: We were taught traditionally not to disturb the natural world in a significant way, and that to do so may cause harm to oneself or one's family. Apache resources can be best protected by managing the land to be as natural as it was in pre-1870s settlement times. Please contact the THPO, if there is a change in any portion of all previously discussed projects. Thank you for contacting the San Carlos Apache Tribe, your effort is greatly appreciated.

CONCURRENCE:

Terry Rambler
Terry Rambler, Tribal Chairman

7/13/12
Date



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, YUMA
301 C STREET
YUMA AZ 85365-9498

June 27, 2012

Environmental Sciences Division

Mr. Charles Wood
Chairman Wood
Chemehuevi Indian Tribe
P.O. Box 1976
Havasu Lake, California 92363

Dear Chairman Wood:

Under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as codified in Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations Part 800 (36 CFR 800), the United States Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground (USAG YPG) is inviting the Chemehuevi Indian Tribe to consult on a Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) Programmatic Agreement (PA) for operational activities. U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground has determined that a PA is an appropriate Program Alternative, as defined in 36 CFR 800.1, for cultural resources management at the Garrison.

U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground is currently developing a Real Property Master Plan (RPMP) that will detail many short- and long-term goals of the Garrison. Through the RPMP process, USAG YPG has determined that a PA, developed through consultation with your Tribe and other interested Tribes, is appropriate. The PA will address preferred management strategies for historic properties that may be affected by implementation of the RPMP and other undertakings not captured in the RPMP that may occur, including training exercises, supported component activities, and basic maintenance and repair activities. Although the USAG YPG goal of the PA is to establish consultation procedures for the broader spectrum of typical undertakings on the Garrison, including the RPMP short- and long-term plans, a finalized PA would benefit the Garrison if completed during the development of the RPMP.

Signatories to the Section 106 PA will be USAG YPG and the Arizona State Historic Preservation Officer, as well as the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation should they wish to participate. In accordance with 36 CFR 800.6(a)(1)(i)(C) USAG YPG has invited the Advisory Council to participate in the consultation. Initial Section 106 consultation meetings to discuss the draft PA, RPMP, and its Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement are planned for the week of August 20, 2012; at that time, discussions about the goals and intentions of the PA and RPMP will occur. A draft meeting agenda is enclosed.

U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground is able to assist with travel expenses and accommodations in order to make the trip feasible for you and an additional Tribal representative you designate. Enclosed are driving directions from Yuma to the Palm Garden on the Main Administrative Area of Yuma Proving Ground where the meeting will be held. Follow-up phone calls will be made by Dr. Meg McDonald, Cultural Resources Manager, to confirm your

attendance and assist with travel arrangements. If the Tribe cannot send a representative to the meeting, we will make other consultation arrangements with your office. Thank you in advance for your time and cooperation. A copy of this letter is being sent to Mr. Ronald Escobar, Secretary-Treasurer.

With this letter, USAG YPG is inviting your participation in the Section 106 process, and, more specifically, we are seeking your input regarding your knowledge of properties of religious or cultural significance that could be impacted by implementation of the RPMP. I look forward to consulting with you on the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement, the Real Property Master Plan, and matters of importance to your Tribe. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Cultural Resources Manager, Dr. Meg McDonald, at alison.m.mcdonald.civ@mail.mil or (928) 328-2520.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard T. Martin".

Richard T. Martin
Garrison Manager

Enclosures

Distribution List for June 27, 2012 Tribal Letter

Native American

Ak-Chin Indian Community
Chemehuevi Indian Tribe
Cocopah Indian Tribe
Colorado River Indian Tribes
Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation
Fort Mojave Indian Tribe
Gila River Indian Community Council
Quechan Indian Tribe
Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
San Carlos Apache Tribe
Hopi Tribe
Tohono O'Odham Nation
Yavapai-Apache Nation
Yavapai-Prescott Tribe



LeRoy N. Shingoitewa
CHAIRMAN

Herman G. Honanie
VICE-CHAIRMAN

July 5, 2011

Richard T. Martin, Garrison Manager
Attention: Dr. Meg McDonald, Cultural Resources Manager IMWE-YMA-PWE
Department of the Army, US Army Installation Management Command
Headquarters, United States Army Garrison, Yuma
301 C Street
Yuma, Arizona 85365-9498

Dear Mr. Martin,

This letter is in response to your correspondence dated June 27, 2012, regarding Yuma Proving Ground preparing a programmatic agreement pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act for the implementation of the Real Property Master Plan, and a consultation meeting scheduled for the week of August 20, 2012. The Hopi Tribe claims cultural affiliation to prehistoric cultural groups in Arizona, including the Hohokam prehistoric cultural group in southern Arizona. The Hopi Cultural Preservation Office supports the identification and avoidance of prehistoric archaeological sites, and we consider the prehistoric archaeological sites of our ancestors to be "footprints" and Traditional Cultural Properties. Therefore, we appreciate Yuma Proving Ground's continuing solicitation of our input and your efforts to address our concerns.

In a letter dated May 9, 2011 regarding the Real Property Master Plan, the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office stated that we appreciate that the Yuma Proving Ground is identifying historic properties in potential use areas, and we are interested in consulting on any proposal that has the potential to adversely affect prehistoric cultural resources on the Proving Ground. In a letter dated May 7, 2012, we stated that we understood implementation of the Real Property Management Plan would be with individual undertakings that are within previously disturbed areas, and areas that are currently being surveyed.

We will be unable to send a representative to the meeting the week of August 20th. We appreciate that Yuma Proving Ground is extremely interested in avoiding and not damaging places of tribal concern and significance. Regarding the proposed programmatic agreement, we defer to the State Historic Preservation Office and other interested tribes. However, we reiterate that if prehistoric cultural resources are identified that will be adversely affected by project activities, please provide us with a copy of any proposed treatment plans for review and comment. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Terry Morgart at the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office at 928-734-3619 or tmorgart@hopi.nsn.us. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Leigh J. Kawanwisiwma, Director
Hopi Cultural Preservation Office

Enclosures: May 9, 2011, May 7, 2012, letters
xc: Arizona State Historic Preservation Office



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, YUMA
301 C STREET
YUMA AZ 85365-9498

June 27, 2012

Environmental Sciences Division

Ms. Katharine Kerr
Program Analyst
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
Old Post Office Building
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 803
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Ms. Kerr:

Under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as codified in Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations Part 800 (36 CFR 800), the United States Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground (USAG YPG) is initiating consultation on a Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) Programmatic Agreement (PA) for operational activities. U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground has determined that a PA is an appropriate Program Alternative, as defined in 36 CFR 800.1, for cultural resources management at the Garrison. In accordance with 36 CFR 800.6(a)(1)(i)(C), this letter is our invitation to the Advisory Council to participate in the consultation.

U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground is currently developing a Real Property Master Plan (RPMP) that will detail many short and long term goals of the Garrison. Through the RPMP process, USAG YPG has determined that a PA, developed through consultation with your office and interested Native American tribes, is appropriate. The PA will address preferred management strategies for historic properties that may be affected by implementation of the RPMP and other undertakings not captured in the RPMP that may occur, including training exercises, supported component activities, and basic maintenance and repair activities. Although the USAG YPG goal of the PA is to establish consultation procedures for the broader spectrum of typical undertakings on the Garrison, including the RPMP short- and long-term plans, a finalized PA would benefit the Garrison if completed during the development of the RPMP.

Signatories to the Section 106 PA will be USAG YPG and the Arizona State Historic Preservation Officer, as well as the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation should your office wish to participate. Initial Section 106 consultation meetings to discuss the draft PA and RPMP are scheduled for the week of August 20, 2012; at that time, discussions about the goals and intentions of the PA and RPMP will occur. A draft meeting agenda is enclosed. A framework draft of the PA, to be built upon during consultation, will be mailed several weeks prior to the scheduled date of the meetings.

Per 36 CFR 800.2(c)(2), USAG YPG has invited 14 Native American tribes to participate as consulting parties in the Section 106 process for both the PA and the RPMP, including the Ak-Chin Indian Community, the Chemehuevi Indian Tribe, the Cocopah Indian Tribe, the Colorado

River Indian Tribes, the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation Community, the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe, the Gila River Indian Community, the Hopi Tribe, the Quechan Tribe, the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, the San Carlos Apache Tribe, the Tohono O'Odham Nation, the Yavapai-Apache Nation , and the Yavapai-Prescott Tribe.

Please send your response to this invitation to consult and if you plan to attend the consultation meetings via mail, fax, or email to Dr. Meg McDonald, Environmental Sciences Division (IMYM-PWE), 301 C Street, Yuma, Arizona 85365-9495, fax: (928) 328-6696, or email: alison.m.mcdonald.civ@mail.mil. Enclosed are driving directions from Yuma to the Palm Garden on the Main Administrative Area of Yuma Proving Ground where the meetings will be held. We look forward to consultation with your office on the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Cultural Resources Manager, Dr. Meg McDonald, using the previously mentioned contact information.

Sincerely,



Richard T. Martin
Garrison Manager

Enclosures

7007 2560 0002 7836 8140

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Sent To: Ms. Katharine Kerr
 Program Analyst
 Street, or PO: Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
 City, S: Old Post Office Building
 PS For: 1100 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Suite 803
 Washington, DC 20004

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Ms. Katharine Kerr
 Program Analyst
 Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
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 1100 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Suite 803
 Washington, DC 20004

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4. Restricted Delivery? (Extra Fee)

☐ Yes



Preserving America's Heritage

August 1, 2012

Mr. Richard T. Martin
Garrison Manager
Department of the Army
U.S. Army Installation Management Command
Headquarters, United States Army Garrison, Yuma
301 C Street
Yuma, AZ 85365-9498

***Ref: Development of a Operational Activities Section 106 Programmatic Agreement
Yuma Proving Ground
La Paz and Yuma Counties, Arizona***

Dear Mr. Martin:

On July 2, 2012, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) received your invitation for our participation in the development of a Programmatic Agreement (PA) for operational activities at Yuma Proving Ground (YPG). The ACHP appreciates the opportunity to participate in the development and revision of real property master plans and operational activities and the development of PAs to implement these activities. We are interested, however, in YPG's goals for the PA and recommend that YPG refrain from providing a draft PA to consulting parties until all parties have an opportunity understand the installation's intentions and discuss a plan for proceeding with development of the PA. After this discussion, we will notify you within 15 days of our decision on participation.

While we will not be able to attend the meeting planned for August 21-22 in person, we request that YPG make arrangements for our participation via teleconference.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Katharine R. Kerr at (202) 606-8534 or via e-mail at kkerr@achp.gov.

Sincerely,

Caroline D. Hall
Assistant Director
Office of Federal Agency Programs
Federal Property Management Section

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION

1100 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 803 • Washington, DC 20004
Phone: 202-606-8503 • Fax: 202-606-8647 • achp@achp.gov • www.achp.gov

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION

1100 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 803 • Washington, DC 20004



Richard T. Martin, Garrison Manager
Department of the Army
U.S. Army Installation Management Command

Headquarters, U. S. Army Garrison, Yuma
301 C Street
Yuma, AZ 85365-9498

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REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, YUMA
301 C STREET
YUMA AZ 85365-9498

June 27, 2012

Environmental Sciences Division

Mr. James Garrison
Arizona State Historic Preservation Officer
1300 W. Washington
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Mr. Garrison:

Under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as codified in Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations Part 800 (36 CFR 800), the United States Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground (USAG YPG) is initiating consultation on a Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) Programmatic Agreement (PA) for operational activities. U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground has determined that a PA is an appropriate Program Alternative, as defined in 36 CFR 800.1, for cultural resources management at the Garrison.

U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground is currently developing a Real Property Master Plan (RPMP) that will detail many short and long term goals of the Garrison. Through the RPMP process, USAG YPG has determined that a PA, developed through consultation with your office and interested Native American tribes, is appropriate. The PA will address preferred management strategies for historic properties that may be affected by implementation of the RPMP and other undertakings not captured in the RPMP that may occur, including training exercises, supported component activities, and basic maintenance and repair activities. Although the USAG YPG goal of the PA is to establish consultation procedures for the broader spectrum of typical undertakings on the Garrison, including the RPMP short- and long-term plans, a finalized PA would benefit the Garrison if completed during the development of the RPMP.

Signatories to the Section 106 PA will be USAG YPG and the Arizona State Historic Preservation Officer, as well as the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation should they wish to participate. In accordance with 36 CFR 800.6(a)(1)(i)(C), USAG has invited the Advisory Council to participate in the consultation through a letter dated June 27, 2012. Initial Section 106 government-to-government consultation meetings to discuss the draft PA as well as the RPMP and its implementing Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement are scheduled for the week of August 20, 2012; at that time, discussions about the goals and intentions of the PA and RPMP will occur. A draft meeting agenda is enclosed. A framework draft of the PA, to be built upon during consultation, will be mailed several weeks prior to the scheduled date of the meetings.

Per 36 CFR 800.2(c)(2), USAG YPG has invited 14 Native American tribes to participate as consulting parties in the Section 106 process for both the PA and the RPMP, including the Ak-Chin Indian Community, the Chemehuevi Indian Tribe, the Cocopah Indian Tribe, the Colorado

River Indian Tribes, the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation Community, the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe, the Gila River Indian Community, the Hopi Tribe, the Quechan Tribe, the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, the San Carlos Apache Tribe, the Tohono O'Odham Nation, the Yavapai-Apache Nation , and the Yavapai-Prescott Tribe.

Please let us know if you plan to attend the consultation meetings the week of August 20, 2012 via mail, fax, or email to Dr. Meg McDonald, Environmental Sciences Division (IMYM-PWE), 301 C Street, Yuma, Arizona 85365-9495, fax: (928) 328-6696, or email: alison.m.mcdonald.civ@mail.mil. Enclosed are driving directions from Yuma to the Palm Garden on the Main Administrative Area of Yuma Proving Ground where the meetings will be held. We look forward to consultation with your office on the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Cultural Resources Manager, Dr. Meg McDonald, using the previously mentioned contact information.

Sincerely,



Richard T. Martin
Garrison Manager

Enclosures



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

SHPO-2012-0655(105730)
GC
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, YUMA
301 C STREET
YUMA AZ 85365-9498

June 27, 2012

RECEIVED

JUN 29 2012

AH
ARIZONA STATE PARKS/S.H.P.

Environmental Sciences Division

Mr. James Garrison
Arizona State Historic Preservation Officer
1300 W. Washington
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Mr. Garrison:

Under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as codified in Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations Part 800 (36 CFR 800), the United States Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground (USAG YPG) is initiating consultation on a Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) Programmatic Agreement (PA) for operational activities. U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground has determined that a PA is an appropriate Program Alternative, as defined in 36 CFR 800.1, for cultural resources management at the Garrison.

U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground is currently developing a Real Property Master Plan (RPMP) that will detail many short and long term goals of the Garrison. Through the RPMP process, USAG YPG has determined that a PA, developed through consultation with your office and interested Native American tribes, is appropriate. The PA will address preferred management strategies for historic properties that may be affected by implementation of the RPMP and other undertakings not captured in the RPMP that may occur, including training exercises, supported component activities, and basic maintenance and repair activities. Although the USAG YPG goal of the PA is to establish consultation procedures for the broader spectrum of typical undertakings on the Garrison, including the RPMP short- and long-term plans, a finalized PA would benefit the Garrison if completed during the development of the RPMP.

Signatories to the Section 106 PA will be USAG YPG and the Arizona State Historic Preservation Officer, as well as the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation should they wish to participate. In accordance with 36 CFR 800.6(a)(1)(i)(C), USAG has invited the Advisory Council to participate in the consultation through a letter dated June 27, 2012. Initial Section 106 government-to-government consultation meetings to discuss the draft PA as well as the RPMP and its implementing Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement are scheduled for the week of August 20, 2012; at that time, discussions about the goals and intentions of the PA and RPMP will occur. A draft meeting agenda is enclosed. A framework draft of the PA, to be built upon during consultation, will be mailed several weeks prior to the scheduled date of the meetings.

Per 36 CFR 800.2(c)(2), USAG YPG has invited 14 Native American tribes to participate as consulting parties in the Section 106 process for both the PA and the RPMP, including the Ak-Chin Indian Community, the Chemehuevi Indian Tribe, the Cocopah Indian Tribe, the Colorado

River Indian Tribes, the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation Community, the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe, the Gila River Indian Community, the Hopi Tribe, the Quechan Tribe, the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, the San Carlos Apache Tribe, the Tohono O'Odham Nation, the Yavapai-Apache Nation, and the Yavapai-Prescott Tribe.

Please let us know if you plan to attend the consultation meetings the week of August 20, 2012 via mail, fax, or email to Dr. Meg McDonald, Environmental Sciences Division (IMYM-PWE), 301 C Street, Yuma, Arizona 85365-9495, fax: (928) 328-6696, or email: alison.m.mcdonald.civ@mail.mil. Enclosed are driving directions from Yuma to the Palm Garden on the Main Administrative Area of Yuma Proving Ground where the meetings will be held. We look forward to consultation with your office on the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Cultural Resources Manager, Dr. Meg McDonald, using the previously mentioned contact information.

Sincerely,



Richard T. Martin
Garrison Manager

Enclosures

*Thank you for the information.
We look forward to reviewing
and commenting on the draft
PA for your Program alternative.
Ann V. Howard 7/3/12
Deputy SHPO*



State Historic Preservation Office

Arizona State Parks
1300 W. Washington
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
www.azstateparks.com

Richard T Martin
Garrison Manager
US Army Garrison Yuma
301 C Street
Yuma, AZ 85365-9498

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TO



Hasler

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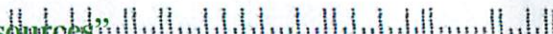
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Mailed From 85007
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“Managing and Conserving Natural, Cultural, and Recreational Resources”

85365-9498





REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, YUMA
301 C STREET
YUMA AZ 85365-9498

July 30, 2012

Environmental Sciences Division

Mr. Louis J. Manuel, Jr.
Chairman
Ak-Chin Indian Community
42507 W. Peters and Nall Road
Maricopa, Arizona 85138

Dear Chairman Manuel:

The United States Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground (USAG YPG) recently invited the Ak-Chin Indian Community to consult on a Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) Programmatic Agreement (PA) for operational activities through a letter dated June 27, 2012. Included with that invitation were information and a draft agenda concerning Section 106 consultation meetings the week of August 20, 2012. We are pleased to provide you with the enclosed copies of a final report and a draft agreement document that we welcome your input on during the consultation meetings. Another package of more information materials for the meetings will follow shortly.

The enclosed final report entitled "Archaeological Inventory and Historic Context of the Colorado-Gila Trail in the Cibola Range of United States Army Proving Ground, La Paz County, Arizona," is the culmination of nearly two years of research, fieldwork, and documentation of a major prehistoric trail that crosses YPG's Cibola Range. Although YPG has finalized the report, we now begin the difficult task of determining how to best preserve this valuable cultural resource in a manner that is compatible with Tribal desires and the Army Mission. We hope you can bring some creative ideas to our discussions concerning the Colorado-Gila Trail at the upcoming meeting and future forums.

The agreement document enclosed with this letter is a new draft of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for which consultation was started but not finalized when the undertaking was initiated in 2000. The associated Extended Combat Systems Maneuver Area (ECSMA) consultation timeline, cultural resources report, and Environmental Assessment are included on a CD for your reference. Although extensively discussed in the past, we recognize that many new stakeholders may have additional contributions, which we hope to hear at the upcoming consultation meetings.

As stated in the previous letter, U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground is able to assist with travel expenses and accommodations and Dr. Meg McDonald, Cultural Resources Manager, will be contacting you to confirm your attendance and assist with travel arrangements. If the Tribe cannot send a representative to the meeting, we will make other consultation arrangements

with your office. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Cultural Resources Manager, Dr. Meg McDonald, at alison.m.mcdonald.civ@mail.mil or (928) 328-2520.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard T. Martin", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Richard T. Martin
Garrison Manager

Enclosures

Distribution List for July 30, 2012 Tribal Letter

Native American


Ak-Chin Indian Community
Chemehuevi Indian Tribe
Cocopah Indian Tribe
Colorado River Indian Tribes
Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation
Fort Mojave Indian Tribe
Gila River Indian Community Council
Quechan Indian Tribe
Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
San Carlos Apache Tribe
Hopi Tribe
Tohono O'Odham Nation
Yavapai-Apache Nation
Yavapai-Prescott Tribe



LeRoy N. Shingoitewa
CHAIRMAN

Herman G. Honanie
VICE-CHAIRMAN

August 6, 2012


Richard T. Martin, Garrison Manager
Attention: Dr. Meg McDonald, Cultural Resources Manager IMWE-YMA-PWE
Department of the Army, US Army Installation Management Command
Headquarters, United States Army Garrison, Yuma
301 C Street
Yuma, Arizona 85365-9498

Dear Mr. Martin,

This letter is in response to your correspondence dated July 30, 2012, regarding Yuma Proving Ground preparing a Memorandum of Agreement pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act for the implementation of the Extended Combat Systems Maneuver Area, an enclosed *Archaeological Inventory and Historic Context of the Colorado-Gila Trail in the Cibola Range*, and a consultation meeting scheduled for the week of August 20, 2012. The Hopi Tribe claims cultural affiliation to prehistoric cultural groups in Arizona, including the Hohokam prehistoric cultural group in southern Arizona. The Hopi Cultural Preservation Office supports the identification and avoidance of prehistoric archaeological sites, and we consider the prehistoric archaeological sites of our ancestors to be "footprints" and Traditional Cultural Properties. Therefore, we appreciate Yuma Proving Ground's continuing solicitation of our input and your efforts to address our concerns.

As we stated in our July 5, 2012, letter regarding the Real Property Master Plan, the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office we will be unable to send a representative to the meeting the week of August 20th. However, we reiterate that appreciate that the Yuma Proving Ground is identifying historic properties in potential use areas, and we are interested in consulting on any proposal that has the potential to adversely affect prehistoric cultural resources.

We have reviewed the enclosed *Archaeological Inventory and Historic Context of the Colorado-Gila Trail in the Cibola Range* that identifies the prehistoric trail AZ R:11:62 (ASM), 55 other National Register eligible prehistoric sites, and over 500 isolated occurrences along it. Because Hopi Clans migrated in prehistoric times and traveled in historic times, we appreciate trails as an important site type. We understand portions of the trail fall within the Mohave Drop Zone and other areas subject to disturbance and appreciate Yuma Proving Ground's difficult task in preserving this valuable cultural resource.

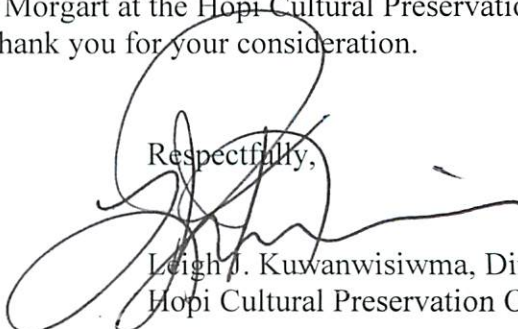
Richard T. Martin
August 6, 2012
Page 2

We have also reviewed the enclosed Extended Combat Systems Maneuver Area consultation timeline, cultural resources report and Environmental Assessment.

Regarding the proposed Memorandum of Agreement for the Extended Combat Systems Maneuver Area, we defer to the State Historic Preservation Office and other interested tribes. However, we reiterate that if prehistoric cultural resources are identified that will be adversely affected by project activities, please provide us with a copy of any proposed treatment plans for review and comment.

We appreciate that Yuma Proving Ground is extremely interested in avoiding and not damaging places of tribal concern and significance. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Terry Morgart at the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office at 928-734-3619 or tmorgart@hopi.nsn.us. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,



Leigh J. Kuwanwisiwma, Director
Hopi Cultural Preservation Office

xc: Arizona State Historic Preservation Office



PRESCOTT ♦ INDIAN ♦ TRIBE

September 04, 2012

Richard T. Martin
Garrison Manager
Yuma Proving Grounds
301 C Street
Yuma, AZ 85365-9498

Dear Mr. Martin:

Thank you for your July 30, 2012 correspondence which contained a copy of the draft Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) Programmatic Agreement (PA) for operational activities and a copy of the final report entitled "Archaeological Inventory and Historic Context of the Colorado-Gila Trail in the Cibola Range of the United States Army Proving Ground, La Paz County, Arizona."

We appreciate your office's efforts to keep us updated on the PA, and we note that Tribes who sign on as Concurring Parties will be consulted on the mitigation of adverse effects to historic properties within the proposed Extended Combat Systems Maneuver Area. We support the proposed establishment of preservation areas to protect prehistoric trail segments and archaeological sites as well as the annual reporting and monitoring of these areas and resources.

In the Zia Engineering report you provided, we agree with Spier (1933:295) regarding the close similarities between the prehistoric Patayan and the Yuman speakers related by Spanish Chroniclers in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries in southwestern Arizona demonstrating that they are the same culture group.

The ceramic assemblage comprising approximately 95 percent Patayan II-III ceramics and approximately 5 percent Patayan I ceramic types was excellently done and should help define the ceramic period defined by the Patayan. Your history of Lower Colorado River ceramic studies is particularly helpful for researchers working in this field.

Please note on the Concurring Parties signature page of the draft PA that Ernest Jones, Sr., is the President and not Chairman of the Yavapai-Prescott Indian Tribe. We are pleased you provided us a printed copy of the 'Colorado-Gila Trail' report for our archives and reference. Please forward a copy of the final PA for our Tribe to review when it is complete.

Sincerely,

Linda Ogo

Culture Research Department Director



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, YUMA
301 C STREET
YUMA AZ 85365-9498

August 9, 2012

Environmental Sciences Division

Mr. Louis J. Manuel, Jr.
Chairman
Ak-Chin Indian Community
42507 W. Peters and Nall Road
Maricopa, Arizona 85138

Dear Chairman Manuel,

The United States Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground (USAG YPG) recently invited the Ak-Chin Indian Community to consult on a Yuma Proving Ground Programmatic Agreement (PA) for operational and maintenance activities through a letter dated June 27, 2012. Included with that invitation were information and a draft agenda concerning Section 106 consultation meetings the week of August 20, 2012. Enclosed are copies of potential stipulations for the draft PA for operations and maintenance at YPG, a Real Property Management Plan (RPMP) project list, an outline of the Environmental Impact Statement, and regional overview maps of the project locations. We welcome your input on these documents during the consultation meetings and in the coming months. This is the final packet of information materials for the meetings.

The enclosed RPMP project list details many short- and long-term goals of the Garrison. Some projects on the list are proposed in locations that are either extensively disturbed or are the sites of previous Section 106 consultations, some are proposed in previously undisturbed areas, and others are merely in the conceptual stage. We encourage you to bring questions and comments on any of these locations to the meetings the week of August 20, where we will have several people present who are familiar with the installation and proposed sites. Those projects subject to the Section 106 consultation process will be covered by the proposed PA, along with other undertakings not captured in the RPMP. Several hours of the meeting will be devoted to getting your input on the proposed PA stipulations.

As stated in the previous two letters, USAG YPG is able to assist with travel expenses and accommodations and Dr. Meg McDonald, Cultural Resources Manager, will be contacting you to confirm your attendance and assist with travel arrangements if arrangements have not already been made. If the Tribe cannot send a representative to the meeting, we will make other consultation arrangements with your office. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Cultural Resources Manager, Dr. Meg McDonald, at alison.m.mcdonald.civ@mail.mil or (928) 328-2520.

Sincerely,

Richard T. Martin
Garrison Manager

Enclosures

Distribution List for August 9, 2012 Tribal Letter

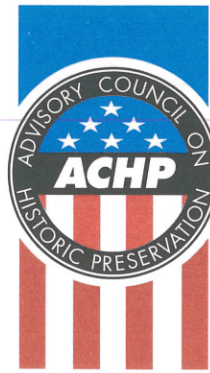
Native American

Ak-Chin Indian Community
Chemehuevi Indian Tribe
Cocopah Indian Tribe
Colorado River Indian Tribes
Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation
Fort Mojave Indian Tribe
Gila River Indian Community Council
Quechan Indian Tribe
Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
San Carlos Apache Tribe
Hopi Tribe
Tohono O'Odham Nation
Yavapai-Apache Nation
Yavapai-Prescott Tribe

Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA
Chairman

Clement A. Price, Ph.D.
Vice Chairman

John M. Fowler
Executive Director



Preserving America's Heritage

October 17, 2012

Honorable John McHugh
Secretary of the Army
1400 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1400

***Ref: Development of a Operational Activities Section 106 Programmatic Agreement
Yuma Proving Ground
La Paz and Yuma Counties, Arizona***

Dear Secretary McHugh:

In response to a notification from United States Army Garrison, Yuma, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) will participate in consultation to develop a Programmatic Agreement in accordance with 36 C.F.R. § 800.14(b)(3) for operational activities at Yuma Proving Ground. Our decision to participate in this consultation is based on the *Criteria for Council Involvement in Reviewing Individual Section 106 Cases*, contained within our regulations. The criteria are met for this proposed undertaking because there are questions regarding policy and interpretation of our regulations.

Section 800.6(a)(1)(iii) of our regulations requires that we notify you, as the head of the agency, of our decision to participate in consultation. By copy of this letter, we are also notifying Mr. Richard T. Martin, Garrison Manager, of this decision.

Our participation in this consultation will be handled by Ms. Katharine R. Kerr who can be reached at (202) 606-8534 or via e-mail at kkerr@achp.gov. We look forward to working with your agency and other consulting parties to consider alternatives to this undertaking that could avoid, minimize, or mitigate potential adverse effects on historic properties and to reach a Programmatic Agreement.

Sincerely,

John M. Fowler
Executive Director

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION

1100 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 803 • Washington, DC 20004
Phone: 202-606-8503 • Fax: 202-606-8647 • achp@achp.gov • www.achp.gov



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, YUMA
301 C STREET
YUMA AZ 85365-9498

October 25, 2012

Environmental Sciences Division

Mr. Louis J. Manuel, Jr.
Chairman
Ak-Chin Indian Community
42507 W. Peters and Nall Road
Maricopa, Arizona 85138

Dear Mr. Manuel:

Thank you for taking the time to participate, or sending a representative to participate on your behalf, in the United States Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground (USAG YPG) National Historic Preservation Act/National Environmental Policy Act consultation meeting held on August 21-23, 2012. I hope the information provided aids in your understanding of potential impacts that the Yuma Proving Ground Real Property Master Plan (RPMP) projects and routine management activities at the facility may have on historic properties. An unedited transcript, as recorded by the professional stenographer who was present the first two days of the meeting, is enclosed in portable data format (*.pdf) on a compact disk. Please let me know if you would like a printed copy of the transcript; it will be sent only upon request due to its four binder volume. A short summary of the meeting is also enclosed.

Throughout the Section 106 consultation, I will continue to correspond with you and your designated Section 106 tribal representative, Ms. Caroline Antone. If you designate a new Section 106 representative, please let us know so that we can include them in all future correspondence. I am also sending a copy of this letter and the enclosures to Ms. Antone.

As stated in previous correspondence and during the consultation meeting, USAG YPG is developing a Section 106 Programmatic Agreement (PA) in accordance with 36 CFR 800.14(b)(1)(ii) and (iv) to address both the routine management of YPG and the potential effects from RPMP projects, some of which cannot be fully determined prior to the release of the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS). USAG YPG and the State Historic Preservation Officer will be the required signatories on this agreement. The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation has also confirmed that they will participate as a signatory.

USAG YPG has considered tribal comments and feedback received thus far and is preparing an initial draft PA. We plan to distribute this initial draft to all consulting parties at the end of October. I request that you review the initial draft PA and provide comments, questions, suggested revisions, edits, and other input within thirty calendar days in order to maintain the planned schedule. USAG YPG will revise the draft PA incorporating feedback and aim to provide a second draft PA in mid-January for further review and comment. At that time, we may consider having a second meeting or telephone conference. At any time during the process, however, please feel free to request additional meetings or conference calls if you wish to have specific discussions about the RPMP undertakings or measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate potential effects from these and future undertakings. Our goal is to have a draft final PA ready in

March 2013 for the final review process with tribal councils. The required signatories would execute the final PA before the end of September 2013. We hope that by providing this proposed timeline at this early stage, everyone can be prepared to work together on scheduling to meet the goal of a signed PA and a final PEIS in the fall of 2013.

On a separate yet interdependent schedule, we plan to release the draft RPMP PEIS to the public for comment in January/early February 2013, with public hearings in March 2013. In order to incorporate your comments on the RPMP and its environmental impacts into the draft PEIS prior to public release, I encourage you to have your feedback regarding the list of RPMP projects distributed at the August meeting sent to us by November 16, 2012. Also, please note that cultural resources will be addressed in cultural resources sections within the body of the PEIS and will not have a separate cultural resources technical report that requires your review. The Section 106 PA will address the process to resolve potential effects to historic properties from the RPMP undertakings, making it imperative that the PA be executed prior to the issuance of the PEIS Record of Decision in the fall of 2013.

Thank you again for your tribe's participation in the August consultation meeting. We look forward to continuing the consultation process, concluding in a Section 106 PA that allows YPG to fulfill its mission while respecting historic properties and other cultural resources significant to the tribes. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Cultural Resources Manager Dr. Meg McDonald, Environmental Sciences Division (IMYM-PWE), 301 C Street, Yuma, Arizona 85365-9495, or by phone (928) 328-2520, fax (928) 328-6696, or email at alison.m.mcdonald.civ@mail.mil.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Richard T. Martin", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Richard T. Martin
Garrison Manager

Enclosures

Distribution List for October 25, 2012 Tribal Letter

Native American

Ak-Chin Indian Community
Chemehuevi Indian Tribe
Cocopah Indian Tribe
Colorado River Indian Tribes
Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation
Fort Mojave Indian Tribe
Gila River Indian Community Council
Quechan Indian Tribe
Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
San Carlos Apache Tribe
Hopi Tribe
Tohono O'Odham Nation
Yavapai-Apache Nation
Yavapai-Prescott Tribe



REPLY TO
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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, YUMA
301 C STREET
YUMA AZ 85365-9498

January 8, 2013

Environmental Sciences Division

Mr. John M. Fowler
Executive Director
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
1100 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Suite 803
Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Mr. Fowler:

U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground (USAG YPG) initiated consultation with the Advisory Council on June 27, 2012 for development of a Programmatic Agreement (PA) for Yuma Proving Ground (YPG); your office responded affirmatively via letter dated October 17, 2012 (enclosed). The draft PA for operations, maintenance, and development at YPG is enclosed for your review and comment; we are requesting responses within 35 days of receipt in order to consolidate comments during late February, distribute a second draft, and schedule a teleconference or other requested consultation meetings during late March. Both a paper copy and an electronic copy in Microsoft Word are enclosed to facilitate your review. A copy of the 2011 archaeological sensitivity model mentioned in the PA is also enclosed. Copies of the draft PA and sensitivity model are being mailed concurrently to the Arizona State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), all consulting federally recognized tribes, and other consulting parties listed in Attachment C of the PA.

The enclosed draft PA addresses preferred management strategies for historic properties that may be affected by implementation of undertakings that may occur, including basic maintenance, repair, and development activities, training exercises, and supported component activities. Although the USAG YPG goal of the PA is to establish consultation procedures for the broader spectrum of typical undertakings, execution of the PA is essential prior to signing of the Record of Decision for the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for Mission activities that is currently in development in order to resolve effects to cultural resources.

Per 36 CFR 800.2(c)(2), USAG YPG has invited 14 federally recognized Native American tribes to participate as consulting parties in the Section 106 process for the PA, including the Ak-Chin Indian Community, the Chemehuevi Indian Tribe, the Cocopah Indian Tribe, the Colorado River Indian Tribes, the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation Community, the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe, the Gila River Indian Community, the Hopi Tribe, the Quechan Tribe, the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, the San Carlos Apache Tribe, the Tohono O'odham Nation, the Yavapai-Apache Nation, and the Yavapai-Prescott Tribe. An initial Section 106 government-to-government consultation meeting to discuss potential draft PA stipulations was held on August 22, 2012. Representatives of eight of the 14 consulting tribes attended the

meeting. Ann Howard, Deputy SHPO, Kristin Leahy, Architectural Historian, Army Environmental Command, and Katharine Kerr, of your office, also participated via teleconference.

If you have any comments, please address your correspondence to Dr. Meg McDonald, Cultural Resources Manager, at alison.m.mcdonald.civ@mail.mil or (928) 328-2520. Thank you for your interest in and support of U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground's cultural resources program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard T. Martin". The signature is stylized with a large, looped "R" and a long, sweeping "M".

Richard T. Martin
Garrison Manager

Enclosures

Distribution List for January 8, 2013 Tribal Letter

Native American

Ak-Chin Indian Community
Chemehuevi Indian Tribe
Cocopah Indian Tribe
Colorado River Indian Tribes
Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation
Fort Mojave Indian Tribe
Gila River Indian Community Council
Quechan Indian Tribe
Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
San Carlos Apache Tribe
Hopi Tribe
Tohono O'Odham Nation
Yavapai-Apache Nation
Yavapai-Prescott Tribe

Agency

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
Arizona State Historic Preservation Officer



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, YUMA
301 C STREET
YUMA AZ 85365-9498

S: 11 February 2013

IMYM-ZA

8 January 2013

MEMORANDUM FOR Headquarters, Installation Management Command, (G4 – Dave Giffin),
2405 Gun Shed Road, Ft Sam Houston, TX 78234-1223

SUBJECT: TASKER 121013652 – Request for Legal, Resources Management, and Technical
Review of the Draft Programmatic Agreement for Operations, Maintenance, and Development of
Yuma Proving Ground, Arizona.

1. I am requesting legal, resources management, and cultural resources review of the enclosed draft Programmatic Agreement (PA) concurrent with USAG YPG consultation with the Arizona State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), 14 consulting federally recognized Native American tribes, and other consulting parties. Potential stipulations for this draft PA were discussed in detail during a consultation meeting on August 22, 2012. Representatives of eight of the 14 consulting tribes were in attendance at the meeting and representatives of the SHPO (Ann Howard, Deputy SHPO), ACHP (Katharine Kerr, Program Analyst, Federal Property Management Section), and Army Environmental Command (Kristin Leahy, Architectural Historian) also participated via teleconference.

2. Due to the critical nature of upcoming Mission activities that will be facilitated by execution of the PA, I request comments and concurrence from your office by February 11, 2013.

3. The point of contact for this action is Meg McDonald, IMYM-PWE, (928) 328-2520, alison.m.mcdonald.civ@mail.mil.

RICHARD T. MARTIN
Garrison Manager

2 Encls

1. Draft Programmatic Agreement
2. Yuma Proving Ground concurrence records

CF: Ted Grabowski, IMCN-E (w/encls)
Karl Kleinbach, IMAE-TS (w/encls)



Publisher's Affidavit of Publication

o0o

STATE OF ARIZONA }
COUNTY OF YUMA }

Lisa Reilly or Kathy White, having been first duly sworn, deposes
and says: that Yuma Sun is a newspaper of general circulation
published daily in the City of Yuma, County of Yuma, State of Arizona;
that (s)he is the publisher or business manager of said paper; that the

PUBLIC NOTICE

a printed copy of which, as it appeared in said paper, is hereto attached
and made a part of this affidavit, was published in Yuma Sun

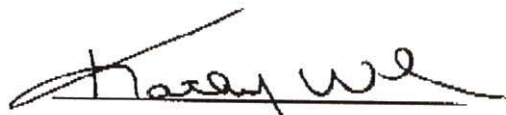
For 1 issues; that the date of the first publication of said

PUBLIC NOTICE

was JANUARY 23, 2013 and the date of the last publication being
JANUARY 23, 2013 and that the dates when said PUBLIC NOTICE

was printed and published in said paper were

JANUARY 23, 2013



Subscribed and sworn to before me, by the said Lisa Reilly or Kathy White

9th day of December, 2014



My commission expires MAY 10, 2017





REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, YUMA
301 C STREET
YUMA AZ 85365-9498

April 1, 2013

Environmental Sciences Division

Mr. James Garrison
Arizona State Historic Preservation Officer
1300 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Mr. Garrison:

U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground initiated consultation with your office on June 27, 2012 (SHPO 2012-0655[105730]) for development of a Programmatic Agreement (PA) for Yuma Proving Ground (YPG). Enclosed with this letter is a second draft of the PA, incorporating comments received to date. Both paper and electronic copies are included to facilitate your review and comment. All comments received on the first draft are included on compact disk (CD). The 2011 archaeological sensitivity model mentioned in the PA and the transcript from the August 22, 2012 tribal consultation meeting discussion of potential PA stipulations are also included on the CD. All materials are being mailed concurrently to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, all consulting federally recognized tribes, and other consulting parties listed in the PA. The enclosed draft PA addresses preferred management strategies for historic properties that may be affected by implementation of undertakings that may occur, including basic maintenance, repair, and development activities, training exercises, and supported component activities. Although the USAG YPG goal of the PA is to establish consultation procedures for the broader spectrum of typical undertakings, execution of the PA is essential prior to signing of the Record of Decision for the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for Mission activities that is currently in development in order to resolve effects to cultural resources.

In accordance with 36 CFR 800.6(a)(1)(i)(C), USAG YPG invited the ACHP to participate in the consultation through a letter dated June 27, 2012; the ACHP responded affirmatively via letter dated October 17, 2012 (enclosed). Per 36 CFR 800.2(c)(2), USAG YPG has invited 14 federally recognized Native American tribes to participate as consulting parties in the Section 106 process for the PA, including the Ak-Chin Indian Community, the Chemehuevi Indian Tribe, the Cocopah Indian Tribe, the Colorado River Indian Tribes, the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation Community, the Fort Mojave Indian Tribe, the Gila River Indian Community, the Hopi Tribe, the Quechan Tribe, the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, the San Carlos Apache Tribe, the Tohono O'odham Nation, the Yavapai-Apache Nation, and the Yavapai-Prescott Tribe. An initial Section 106 government-to-government consultation meeting to discuss potential draft PA stipulations was held on August 22, 2012. Representatives of eight of the 14 consulting tribes attended the meeting. Katharine Kerr, Program Analyst, ACHP, Kristin Leahy, Architectural Historian, Army Environmental Command, and Ann Howard, of your office, also participated via teleconference.

We have scheduled a meeting on the morning of April 17, 2013, in Building 308 on the Main Administrative Area of Yuma Proving Ground to discuss the enclosed second draft of the PA. The meeting agenda and a map to Building 308 are also enclosed. U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground is able to assist with travel expenses and accommodations; please contact Dr. Meg McDonald, Cultural Resources Manager for details. If your office cannot send a representative, the enclosed agenda has teleconferencing instructions. Any comments you send via mail or email prior to the meeting will be presented at the meeting; as importantly, we welcome your comments in person or via telephone during the meeting if you cannot send comments prior to the meeting.

If you have any comments, please address your correspondence to Dr. Meg McDonald, Cultural Resources Manager, at alison.m.mcdonald.civ@mail.mil or (928) 328-2520. Thank you for your interest in and support of U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground's cultural resources program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard T. Martin".

Richard T. Martin
Garrison Manager

Enclosures



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, YUMA
301 C STREET
YUMA AZ 85365-9498

April 1, 2013

Environmental Sciences Division

Mr. John M. Fowler
Executive Director
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
1100 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Suite 803
Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Mr. Fowler:

U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground (USAG YPG) initiated consultation with the Advisory Council on June 27, 2012 for development of a Programmatic Agreement (PA) for Yuma Proving Ground (YPG); your office responded affirmatively via letter dated October 17, 2012. Enclosed for your review and comment is a second draft PA; both a paper copy and an electronic copy in Microsoft Word are enclosed to facilitate your review. All comments received on the first draft are included on compact disk (CD). The 2011 archaeological sensitivity model mentioned in the PA and the transcript from the August 22, 2012 tribal consultation meeting discussion of potential PA stipulations are also included on the CD. All materials are being mailed concurrently to the Arizona State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), all consulting federally recognized tribes, and other consulting parties listed in the PA.

We have scheduled a meeting on the morning of April 17, 2013, in Building 308 on the Main Administrative Area of Yuma Proving Ground to discuss the enclosed second draft of the PA. The meeting agenda and a map to Building 308 are also enclosed. U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground is able to assist with travel expenses and accommodations; please contact Dr. Meg McDonald, Cultural Resources Manager for details. If your office cannot send a representative, the enclosed agenda has teleconferencing instructions. Any comments you send via mail or email prior to the meeting will be presented at the meeting; as importantly, we welcome your comments in person or via telephone during the meeting if you cannot send comments prior to the meeting.

If you have any comments, please address your correspondence to Dr. Meg McDonald, Cultural Resources Manager, at alison.m.mcdonald.civ@mail.mil or (928) 328-2520. Thank you for your interest in and support of U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground's cultural resources program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard T. Martin", is located below the "Sincerely," text.

Richard T. Martin
Garrison Manager

Enclosures

Distribution List for April 1, 2013 Tribal Letter

Native American

Ak-Chin Indian Community
Chemehuevi Indian Tribe
Cocopah Indian Tribe
Colorado River Indian Tribes
Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation
Fort Mojave Indian Tribe
Gila River Indian Community Council
Quechan Indian Tribe
Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
San Carlos Apache Tribe
Hopi Tribe
Tohono O'Odham Nation
Yavapai-Apache Nation
Yavapai-Prescott Tribe

Agency

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
Arizona Department of Transportation
Arizona Historical Society, Rio Colorado Division
Arizona Public Service Company, Natural Resources Department
Bureau of Land Management, Yuma Field Office
Western Area Power Administration, Desert South Region

Microwave Radio Systems, spare and repair parts, support equipment, publications and technical data, personnel training and training equipment, site surveys, U.S. Government and contractor technical assistance, and other related elements of program and logistics support. The estimated cost is \$339 million.

This proposed sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security of the United States by improving the Iraqi military's situational awareness and enhancing command and control from its National Military Headquarters to major subordinate commands.

The Government of Iraq intends to use these defense articles and services to provide critical redundancy for national level command and control.

This proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractor will be Raytheon Company of Arlington, Virginia. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require U.S. Government and contractor representatives to travel to Iraq on an as-needed basis to provide program and technical support and training.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

[FR Doc. 2013-19976 Filed 8-15-13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001-06-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

Meeting of the Uniform Formulary Beneficiary Advisory Panel

AGENCY: Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs), DoD.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (5 U.S.C., as amended, 41 CFR 102-3.150) and the Government in the Sunshine Act of 1976 (5 U.S.C. 552b, as amended) the Department of Defense (DoD) announces the following Federal advisory committee meeting of the Uniform Formulary Beneficiary Advisory Panel ("the Panel").

DATES: Thursday, September 19, 2013, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: Naval Heritage Center Theater, 701 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: CDR Joseph Lawrence, DFO, Uniform

Formulary Beneficiary Advisory Panel, 4130 Stanley Road, Suite 208, Building 1000, San Antonio, TX 78234-6012. Telephone: (210) 295-1271 Fax: (210) 295-2789. Email Address: Baprequests@tma.osd.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose of Meeting: The Panel will review and comment on recommendations made to the Director of TRICARE Management Activity, by the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee, regarding the Uniform Formulary.

Meeting Agenda:

1. Sign-In
2. Welcome and Opening Remarks
3. Public Citizen Comments
4. Scheduled Therapeutic Class Reviews (Comments will follow each agenda item)
 - a. Corticosteroids-Immune Modulators
 - b. Self-Monitoring Blood Glucose Systems
 - c. Renin-Angiotensin Anti-hypertensives
 - d. Pulmonary-1 Agents
 - e. Designated Newly Approved Drugs in Already-Reviewed Classes
 - f. Pertinent Utilization Management Issues
5. Panel Discussions and Vote

Meeting Accessibility: Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b and 41 CFR 102-3.140 through 102-3.165, and the availability of space, this meeting is open to the public. Seating is limited and will be provided only to the first 220 people signing-in. All persons must sign-in legibly.

Administrative Session: Prior to the public meeting, the Panel will conduct an Administrative Session from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. to discuss administrative matters of the Panel. The Administrative Session will be held at the Naval Heritage Center, 701 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20004. Pursuant to 41 CFR 102-3.160, the Administrative Session will be closed to the public.

Written Statements: Pursuant to 41 CFR 102-3.105(j) and 102-3.140 and 10(a)(3) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, the public or interested organizations may submit written statements to the membership of the Panel at any time or in response to the stated agenda of a planned meeting. Written statements should be submitted to the Panel's Designated Federal Officer (DFO). The DFO's contact information can be obtained from the General Services Administration's Federal Advisory Committee Act Database at <https://www.fido.gov/facadatabase/public.asp> as well as in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section.

Written statements that do not pertain to the scheduled meeting of the Panel may be submitted at any time. However, if individual comments pertain to a specific topic being discussed at a planned meeting, then these statements must be submitted no later than 5 business days prior to the meeting in question. The DFO will submit all written statements and provide copies to all the committee members.

Public Comments: In addition to written statements, the Panel will set aside 1 hour for individuals or interested groups to address the Panel. To ensure consideration of their comments, individuals and interested groups should submit written statements as outlined in this notice; but if they still want to address the Panel, then they will be afforded the opportunity to register the day of the meeting to address the Panel. The Panel's DFO will have a "Sign-Up Roster" available at the Panel meeting for registration on a first-come, first-serve basis. Those wishing to address the Panel will be given no more than 5 minutes to present their comments, and at the end of the 1 hour time period, no further public comments will be accepted. Anyone who signs-up to address the Panel, but is unable to do so due to the time limitation, may submit their comments in writing; however, they must understand that their written comments may not be reviewed prior to the Panel's deliberation.

To ensure timeliness of comments for the official record, the Panel encourages that individuals and interested groups consider submitting written statements instead of addressing the Panel.

Dated: August 13, 2013.

Aaron Siegel,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 2013-19927 Filed 8-15-13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001-06-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for Activities and Operations at Yuma Proving Ground, Arizona

AGENCY: Department of the Army, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of Availability.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Army announces the availability of the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (DPEIS) for implementation of activities and operations at Yuma Proving Ground (YPG). This document

analyzes and evaluates potential environmental impacts associated with short-term and long-term proposed construction projects and proposed changes to YPG's testing and training mission. YPG consists of approximately 840,000 acres of DoD-managed land in the Sonoran Desert in southwestern Arizona.

DATES: The public comment period will end 45 days after publication of an NOA in the **Federal Register** by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

ADDRESSES: For questions concerning the DPEIS, please contact Mr. Sergio Obregon, U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground, National Environmental Policy Act Coordinator, IMYM-PWE, Yuma, AZ 85365-9498. Written comments may be mailed to that address or emailed to ypgnepa@conus.army.mil.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Chuck Wullenjohn, Yuma Proving Ground Public Affairs Office, at (928) 328-6189 Monday through Thursday from 6:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Mountain Standard Time.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department of the Army prepared a DPEIS to analyze potential impacts from new construction, changes in testing and training, and activities conducted under private industry partnerships. Potential renewable energy initiatives are also discussed in the DPEIS, but project-specific National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis separate from the DPEIS will be required prior to implementing any specific renewable energy initiatives.

There are two alternatives analyzed in this DPEIS: (1) No Action which describes the conditions under which no new actions would occur. There would be no changes in testing and training activities conducted at YPG, and (2) the Proposed Action which includes new construction and associated demolition, testing and training activities occurring on YPG, and new testing and training proposed by tenants to meet anticipated testing or training needs. The programmatic components of the DPEIS consist of a detailed analysis of well defined short-term projects and long-term projects with unspecified locations. These are analyzed to identify the maximum potential impact on a broad scale. These activities would be subjected to site-specific NEPA analysis prior to implementation and could include analysis of other reasonable alternatives to the identified action. Six other alternatives were considered but eliminated from further analysis.

The PEIS will be used to develop a future Real Property Master Plan (RPMP) at YPG. This analysis will support the future planning to ensure that YPG considers environmental impacts as it seeks to improve facilities and capabilities for the future. The analysis in the PEIS will also support the alternatives analysis for the RPMP. The DPEIS will also address cumulative impacts for existing, proposed, and reasonably foreseeable projects.

For the Proposed Action, the analysis is structured to allow the Army to select a subset of the proposed activities or, for certain activities, to select from among a range of options with regard to magnitude, frequency, or duration. The Army is not seeking to expand the boundaries of YPG and all proposed activities would be conducted within the boundaries of the installation or its currently authorized airspace. No changes are proposed to ongoing activities conducted at off-post areas in Arizona and California that are used for specific testing activities under conditions not found at YPG. Therefore, activities conducted in these areas are not included in the analysis in the DPEIS.

The potential for environmental impacts is greatest for the following resource areas: soils, air quality, solid and hazardous materials/waste, vegetation, and wildlife. Impacts to these resources may occur as a result of converting existing land use to support military testing and training or from increasing the scope or magnitude of testing activities.

All governmental agencies, interest groups, and individuals are invited to participate in public meetings and/or submit comments in writing. Information on the time and location of two public meetings will be published locally. In addition, YPG is engaged in consultation with federally recognized Native American tribes regarding the Proposed Action. YPG will meet the obligation to consult under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act concurrently with this NEPA process through a Programmatic Agreement.

At this time, a Preferred Alternative has not been selected. The Army will select a Preferred Alternative after consideration of input from government agencies, Native American tribes, non-governmental organizations, and members of the public.

Copies of the DPEIS are available at the Yuma County Library, Main Branch, 2951 S. 21st Drive and the Yuma Proving Ground Post Library. The DPEIS can also be viewed at the following Web

site: http://www.yuma.army.mil/mhub_documents.shtml.

Brenda S. Bowen,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 2013-19827 Filed 8-15-13; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-08-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Record of Decision for the Construction and Operation of an Infantry Platoon Battle Course at Pōhakuloa Training Area, Hawai'i

AGENCY: Department of the Army, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Army Pacific (USARPAC) and U.S. Army Garrison, Hawai'i, (USAG-HI) announce the decision to construct and operate a new Infantry Platoon Battle Course (IPBC) and associated infrastructure at Pōhakuloa Training Area (PTA), Hawai'i. This decision allows the Army to construct and operate an IPBC that will meet Army training requirements and will support the live-fire collective training needs of the Army, Army Reserve, and Hawai'i Army National Guard, as well as other Service components that are stationed or train in Hawai'i.

To comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Department of the Army prepared an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that evaluated the potential environmental and socioeconomic effects associated with alternatives to construct and operate the IPBC. In the Final EIS published in the **Federal Register** on April 26, 2013 (78 FR 24734), the Army identified the Western Range Alternative as the preferred alternative. The Army has selected the preferred alternative in the Record of Decision (ROD). The Western Range Area Alternative is located in an under-utilized portion of the PTA impact area where no ranges currently exist. The location has been exposed to indirect munitions fire and constructing the IPBC here will reclaim a portion of the impact area. A copy of the ROD can be found at www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil/pta_peis/default.htm.

ADDRESSES: Email requests to obtain a copy of the ROD can be addressed to USARMY.JBSA.AEC.MBX@mail.mil.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: US Army Environmental Command Public Affairs Office, at 1-855-846-3940 (toll free).

PUBLIC NOTICE

The United States Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground (USAG YPG) announces the availability of a draft Programmatic Agreement (PA) in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

The draft Section 106 PA addresses an ongoing program of operations and maintenance at YPG, as well as the activities considered in the DPEIS. USAG YPG determined that the development of a PA, in accordance with 36 Code of Federal Regulations § 800.14(b)(1)(ii) and (iv), is warranted because specific details on some projects are unknown and the effects on historic properties cannot be fully determined prior to their approval, and because of the routine nature of many actions that are part of the ongoing management and operation of YPG. The draft PA has been developed through consultation with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the Arizona State Historic Preservation Officer, and federally recognized tribes in the region, and will be available for review in order to provide an opportunity for members of the public to express their views on resolving adverse effects to historic properties that could result from the activities and operations at YPG.

A public meeting to discuss the draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement and the Programmatic Agreement will be held on YPG from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at Building 6, the Desert Breeze Travel Camp Community Center, located on the Main Administrative Area off of Imperial Dam Road on Tuesday September 24, 2013. A second public meeting on the DPEIS will be held at the Yuma Public Library, 2951 South 21st Drive, Yuma AZ, 85364 on Wednesday September 25, 2013 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

The Draft PA will be available for review at the Yuma County Library, Main Branch, 2951 S. 21st Drive, the YPG Post Library, and the Foothills Branch Library, 13226 S Frontage Rd, Yuma, AZ, from September 2 through October 7, 2013. The public comment period for the draft Section 106 PA will be September 2 through October 7, 2013. The documents also can be viewed at the following website: [http:// www.yuma.army.mil/mhub_documents.shtml](http://www.yuma.army.mil/mhub_documents.shtml).

For questions concerning the DPEIS, please contact Ms. Meg McDonald, U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground, Cultural Resources Manager, IMYM-PWE, Yuma, AZ 85365-9498. Written comments may be mailed to that address or emailed to alison.m.mcdonald.civ@mail.mil.

Distribution List for August 22, 2013 Letter

Copy of Letter is Available at Yuma Proving Ground

Native American

Ak-Chin Indian Community
Chemehuevi Indian Tribe
Cocopah Indian Tribe
Colorado River Indian Tribes
Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation
Fort Mojave Indian Tribe
Gila River Indian Community Council
Hopi Tribe
Quechan Indian Tribe
Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
San Carlos Apache Tribe
Tohono O'Odham Nation
Yavapai-Apache Nation
Yavapai-Prescott Tribe

Agency

Arizona Department of Agriculture, Native Plant Program
Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, Air Quality Division
Arizona Department of Transportation
Arizona Game and Fish Department
Bureau of Indian Affairs - Western Regional Office
Bureau of Land Management, Yuma District Office
Cibola National Wildlife Refuge
Environmental Department MCAS Yuma
Imperial National Wildlife Refuge
Kofa National Wildlife Refuge
Southwest Arizona National Wildlife Refuge Complex
U.S. Border Patrol
Bureau of Land Management, Yuma District Office
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Yuma Area Office
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation District
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Public, Political Representatives, and Local Government

Arizona Deer Association
Arizona Desert Bighorn Sheep Society
Arizona Historical Society
Arizona Wilderness Coalition
Audubon Society
City of Yuma
Center for Biological Diversity

Greater Yuma Economic Development Corporation
House of Representatives
La Paz County
Sierra Club, Grand Canyon Chapter
United States Senate
Western Arizona Council of Governments
Yuma County Chamber of Commerce
Yuma County
Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization

Preguntas a los candidatos sobre sus plataformas

PERSONAL DE REDACCION

BAJO EL SOL

Yuma -- Diversos candidatos competirán para puestos en el concilio de Yuma en la elección primaria de la ciudad que se realizará el 27 de agosto.

El periódico Yuma Sun les hizo preguntas a los candidatos sobre sus plataformas. Esta es parte de una serie de notas sobre las respuestas de ellos.

Nombre del candidato: Keith C. Parsels

Años de edad: 61

Describe su plataforma: Eliminar la carga que el gobierno coloca a los negocios pequeños, y disminuir el control de la ciudad de Yuma por los gobiernos del estado de Arizona y de los Estados Unidos.

Si usted sea elegida, ¿cual será su primera prioridad?:



KEITH C. PARSELS

Crear un consenso acerca de lo que es esencial para la mayoría de residentes de la ciudad, antes de que yo vote por cualquier aumento de impuesto o de cobro.

¿Que cree que es el reto más grande que enfrenta a los residentes de Yuma?: El desempleo y aumentos de impuestos y de cobros de servicios de utilidades, los cuales dañan a personas de bajos recursos, a las que carecen de empleo, a los jubilados o personas de tercera edad con ingresos fijos.

Nombre del candidato: Daniel Sánchez

Años de edad: 28

Describe su plataforma: Go-



DANIEL SANCHEZ

Si usted sea elegida, ¿cual será su primera prioridad?: Me gustaría trabajar con mis concejales compañeros para desarrollar una declaración de visión y un plan estratégico que dirigiría a la ciudad durante los próximos dos años. Lograr una visión común es esencial para contar con un equipo profesional y productivo, y sin la colaboración sería imposible trabajar por los intereses mejores de la ciudad. Una vez que se logre tal meta, quiero trabajar con el concilio y el administrador de la ciudad para cambiar la manera

bierno transparente, animar a negocios locales y atraer a nuevas empresa a Yuma, y lograr la responsabilidad financiera.



PAUL JOHNSON

en que se crea el presupuesto de la ciudad.

¿Que cree que es el reto más grande que enfrenta a los residentes de Yuma?: Creo que el reto más grande que enfrenta a residentes de Yuma es que hay demasiada personas quienes están apáticas a los problemas de su ciudad, entre ellas los jóvenes que parecen menos ocupados a buscar soluciones.

Nombre del candidato: Paul Johnson

Años de edad: 69

Describe su plataforma: Trabajaré de forma colaborativa con los otros concejales, la mesa de supervisores del Condado de Yuma, así como otros grupos y

organizaciones para atraer nuevos negocios a Yuma para reducir nuestra tasa horrible de desempleo. Trabajaré con los otros concejales para mejorar los servicios del municipio mientras reducir los costos a los contribuyentes. Trabajaré para reducir la congestión del tráfico por medio de buscar fondos para proyectos de mejoramiento a las calles, y continuaré a trabajar para mejorar los parques y programas recreativos para nuestros jóvenes.

Si usted sea elegida, ¿cual será su primera prioridad?: Atraer a Yuma más puestos de trabajo de mejores salarios, lo que es esencial para reducir nuestra tasa horrible de desempleo.

¿Que cree que es el reto más grande que enfrenta a los residentes de Yuma?: El de reducir la tasa alta de desempleo en nuestra comunidad.

Llenan puesto directivo en ayuntamiento de San Luis

CESAR NEYOY

BAJO EL SOL

San Luis, Ariz.- Desde hoy, el ayuntamiento de esta ciudad tiene una nueva funcionaria, Jenny Torres, quien fue contratada como directora de Desarrollo Comunitario.

Torres, de 35 años de edad, llegó a llenar el puesto que ocupara Michel Trend, quien lo dejó en octubre, en un acuerdo con la

ciudad.

“Estoy muy emocionada de regresar al puesto que dejé hace casi diez años, de traer la experiencia que he adquirido en el sector privado y trabajando de cerca de organizaciones del sector público”, comentó Torres, quien ocupó el mismo puesto entre los años 2001 y 2004.

Nacida en California, Torres fue criada y reside en San Luis desde su niñez,

aunque en años recientes se desempeño como gerente de proyectos para una compañía de bienes raíces en el Valle Imperial, donde, además, trabajó de cerca con organizaciones no lucrativas.

Antes de asumir el puesto, Torres, hija de la concejal Gloria Torres, trabajó para la organización no lucrativa Comité de Bien Estar, en esta ciudad.

“Apenas estoy revisando

las metas que tiene la oficina. Tengo el reto de continuar trabajando para lograrlas, pero también el de aplicar mi experiencia e implantar ideas que puedan servir en bien de la comunidad”, anotó la funcionaria.

Torres tiene una maestría en Administración Pública por la Northern Arizona University (NAU), y percibirá un salario de 64,000 dólares anuales.

Torres llega a dirigir el departamento encargado de gestionar recursos externos para proyectos municipales y promover el desarrollo económico.

Reconoció que llega al puesto en un tiempo difícil para la gestión de recursos: “La economía apenas se está recuperando; sé que es un tiempo difícil, pero vamos a ver qué mecanismos implementar para atraer recursos”.



JENNY TORRES

Tener una conexión a Internet no es sólo conveniente. Es una necesidad.



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AVISO PÚBLICO

El ejército de los Estados Unidos Garrison Yuma Proving Ground (USAG YPG, por sus siglas en inglés) anuncia la disponibilidad del Borrador de la Declaración de Programación de Impacto Ambiental (DPEIS, por sus siglas en inglés) en conformidad con la sección 102(2)(c) de la Ley Nacional de Política Ambiental (NEPA, por sus siglas en inglés) para analizar los impactos ambientales como resultado de la implementación de las actividades y funcionamiento en Yuma Proving Ground (YPG, por sus siglas en inglés) al noreste de Yuma, Arizona y el borrador del Acuerdo de Programación (PA, por sus siglas en inglés) en conformidad con la Sección 106 de la Ley Nacional para la Conservación Histórica. El Aviso de Disponibilidad (NOA por sus siglas en inglés) de este DPEIS fue publicado en el Registro Federal el 16 de agosto de 2013.

Este documento analiza los posibles impactos por la nueva construcción, cambios en pruebas y capacitación y actividades llevadas a cabo bajo las asociaciones de la industria privada. Iniciativas de energía renovable se discuten en el DPEIS, pero el análisis de la NEPA para este proyecto será necesario antes de implementar iniciativas específicas de energía renovable. Hay dos alternativas analizadas en este DPEIS: (1) Ninguna Acción que describe las condiciones bajo las cuales no se producirían nuevas acciones. No habría ningún cambio en actividades de pruebas y capacitación que se realizan en YPG, y (2) la Acción Propuesta, que incluye la nueva construcción y demolición asociada, actividades de pruebas y capacitación que ocurren en YPG y nuevas pruebas y capacitación propuestos por los inquilinos para cumplir con pruebas o capacitación anticipadas. Para la Acción Propuesta, el análisis está estructurado para permitir que el ejército seleccione un subconjunto de las actividades propuestas o, para ciertas actividades, seleccionar entre una gama de opciones con respecto a la magnitud, frecuencia o duración. El ejército no está tratando de ampliar las fronteras de YPG y todas las actividades propuestas se llevarían a cabo dentro de los límites de la instalación o su espacio aéreo actualmente autorizado. El PEIS se utilizará para desarrollar un futuro Plan Maestro de Propiedades Inmuebles (RPMP, por sus siglas en inglés) en YPG. En este momento, no se ha seleccionado una Alternativa Preferida. El ejército seleccionará una Alternativa Preferida después de considerar la opinión de las agencias gubernamentales, las tribus Americanas Nativas, organizaciones no gubernamentales y miembros del público.

Se llevará a cabo una reunión pública para discutir el DPEIS en YPG de las 6:00pm a 8:00pm en el Edificio 6, del Centro Comunitario Desert Breeze Travel Camp, ubicado en el Área Administrativa Principal en la salida de la calle Imperial Dam Road, el Martes 24 de Septiembre de 2013. Se llevará a cabo una segunda reunión pública en la Biblioteca Pública de Yuma, ubicada en el 2951 South 21st Drive, Yuma AZ, 85364 el Miércoles 25 de Septiembre de 2013 de las 6:00pm a 8:00pm.

El borrador del PA de Sección 106 aborda un programa continuo de las operaciones y mantenimiento en YPG, e incluye las actividades consideradas en el DPEIS. USAG YPG determinó que el desarrollo de un PA, según el Código de Regulaciones Federales 36 § 800.14(b)(1)(ii) y (iv), se justifica porque se desconocen detalles específicos sobre algunos proyectos y los efectos sobre las propiedades históricas no pueden determinarse completamente antes de su aprobación y debido a la costumbre rutinaria de muchas acciones que forman parte de la continua gestión y operación de YPG. El borrador del PA se ha desarrollado a través de consultas con el Consejo Consultivo de Conservación Histórica, el oficial de Conservación Histórica del estado de Arizona y tribus reconocidas por el gobierno federal en la región y estará disponible para revisión con el fin de proporcionar una oportunidad al público a expresar sus opiniones para resolver los efectos adversos a las propiedades históricas que podrían derivarse de las actividades y operaciones en YPG.

El período de comentario público para el DPEIS comienza oficialmente con la publicación de la NOA en el Registro Federal y el documento está disponible en la base de datos de la Declaración de Impactos Ambientales (EIS, por sus siglas en inglés) de la Agencia de Protección Ambiental de Los Estados Unidos (US EPA, por sus siglas en inglés) en su página de internet: <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/nepa/eisdata.html>. Comentarios sobre el DPEIS serán solicitados hasta el 7 de Octubre de 2013. El DPEIS también estará disponible al público para su revisión a partir del 23 de Agosto hasta el 7 de Octubre de 2013, en la sucursal de la biblioteca principal del Condado de Yuma, ubicada en el 2951 S. 21st Drive, en la biblioteca de YPG y en la biblioteca de Foothills, ubicada en el 13226 S. Frontage Rd., Yuma, AZ. El borrador del PA también estará disponible para su revisión y comentario en los mismos lugares a partir del 2 de Septiembre hasta el 7 de Octubre de 2013. Los documentos también se pueden revisar en la siguiente página de internet: http://www.yuma.army.mil/mhub_documents.shtml.

Las versiones finales del PEIS estarán disponibles al público para su revisión y comentario una vez terminados. YPG también aceptará comentarios del público durante todo el proceso NEPA. Todos aquellos interesados están invitados a asistir a las reuniones públicas y a enviar comentarios o preguntas por correo a Sergio Obregon, Coordinador de NEPA a U.S Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground, IMYM-PWE, 301 C Street, Yuma, Arizona 85365-9498, o por correo electrónico a: usarmyypg.imcom.mbx.nepa@mail.mil. Por teléfono, llame a Chuck Wullenjohn al (928) 328-6189 de 6:30 AM a 5:00 PM, de Lunes a Jueves. Preguntas o comentarios sobre el borrador de la Sección 106 del PA deberán ser enviados a Meg McDonald, Gerente de Recursos Culturales, a U.S Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground, IMYM-PWE, 301 C Street, Yuma, Arizona 85365-9498, o por correo electrónico a: alison.m.mcdonald.civ@mail.mil.

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City of YUMA

Resumen de Logros CDBG 2012

A la ciudad de Yuma le fueron otorgados \$847,269 en fondos CDBG de parte del Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano (HUD). Estos fondos fueron combinados con \$905,132.56 en fondos no gastados de años anteriores y \$43,141.34 en ingresos del programa para un total de \$1,795,542.90 disponibles para gastarse en 2012/2013. Los fondos CDBG actuales que se gastaron fueron \$1,030,711.07. Estos fueron combinados con fondos del Departamento de Vivienda de Arizona, préstamos privados, inversiones privadas, servicios voluntarios y donaciones para lograr lo siguiente:

Programas de Vivienda y Actividades para la Conservación de Vecindarios para mejorar la calidad de vida para personas de ingresos bajos o moderados (LMI) en la ciudad de Yuma:

- Se completaron reparaciones menores en 5 hogares para abordar asuntos sobre seguridad y violaciones a códigos bajo el Programa de Reparaciones de Emergencia a Hogares, rehabilitación principal en 4 hogares y reconstrucción de 3 hogares bajo el Programa de Préstamo para Mejoras al Hogar. Todos los clientes asistieron a una Clase Obligatoria del Mantenimiento de Hogar
- Se completó modificaciones de acceso para minusválido y reparaciones menores al hogar para 14 propietarios de casa discapacitados y/o ancianos a través de SMILE
- Se llevó a cabo la Aplicación del Código en el Vecindario Yuma High (YHN), en el Vecindario Mesa Heights (MHN), y en el Vecindario Carver Park (CPN) y se completaron 884 inspecciones, se iniciaron 84 nuevos casos y se corrigieron 290 violaciones.
- Se completaron 94 inspecciones de casas en renta en unidades de vivienda y espacios de trailer parks en CPN y YHN y 221 violaciones fueron suprimidas
- En colaboración con varias organizaciones locales y muchos voluntarios, se participó en Rock n' Roll Paint-a-Thon y se pintó el exterior de los hogares de 10 personas LMI, ancianas y discapacitadas dentro de la ciudad
- Se aportaron fondos para Yuma Neighborhood Development Organization (YNDO) una Organización de Desarrollo Basado en la Comunidad (CBDO), para administrar una Cuenta de Desarrollo Individual (IDA) del Programa de Propiedad de Casa. 2 familias compraron una casa
- Se aportaron fondos a YNDO para adquirir 4 hogares vacantes dentro de la ciudad. Los hogares han sido rehabilitados y rentados a familias LMI a precios accesibles
- Se completó un Proyecto de Mejoramiento Pedestre en la calle 5ta, entre Avenidas 4ta y 5ta para mejorar la seguridad de los estudiantes en el YHN que asisten a Roosevelt, Fourth Ave. Jr. High y Yuma High School
- Se proveyeron fondos a Catholic Community Services para costos de ingeniería para un proyecto en HVAC en las facilidades del Albergue. La construcción se tomará lugar en 2013/2014
- Se aportaron fondos a Adult Literacy Plus para pagar costos de arquitectura para su proyecto Building Literacy Improvement. La construcción tomará lugar en 2013/2014

Actividades de Desarrollo Económico

- Se aportaron fondos para YNDO, una CBDO para administrar un Programa de Micro-negocios IDA. 5 Micro-negocios fueron abiertos

Actividades y Programas de Servicio Público

- Se colaboró con Servicios Legales Comunitarios (CLS) para llevar a cabo el Programa de Vivienda Justa (FH), el cual incluyó: Asesoría en FH y referencias para 73 personas, puestos en eventos comunitarios y distribución de información sobre FH; coordinación del Festival de Vivienda; entrevistas televisadas; y un concurso de póster para jóvenes. CLS colaboró con el Consejo del Suroeste de Vivienda Justa para proveer entrenamiento a los vendedores de bienes raíces y trabajadores de complejos de departamentos y para conducir una pruebas de FH relacionadas con la nacionalidad, raza y discapacidades en complejos de departamentos
- El Programa Simulacro de Pobreza de la Acción Comunitaria de Yuma (CAPS) tuvo una simulación de pobreza con aproximadamente 65 participantes. Los simulacros fueron diseñados para crear conciencia sobre los problemas que experimenta la gente que vive en la pobreza.
- Se operó el Centro Vecinal Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. En asociación con el Consejo de la Industria Privada de Yuma se ofreció un Centro de Carreras para Jóvenes, incluyendo servicios tales como redacción de curriculum, habilidades para entrevistas, búsqueda de trabajo y asistencia para llenar solicitudes y tutoría entre compañeros, planeamiento educativo/de carrera, salud y actividades físicas y computadoras. Se asoció con el Arizona Western College (AWC) para proveer de un laboratorio de computación para estudiantes del AWC, pruebas de posicionamiento, asistencia para la solicitud de ayuda financiera, e información general del AWC para residentes del área. Se proveyeron servicios públicos y eventos vecinales para esta área LMI
- Se aportaron fondos para Crossroads Mission para proporcionar copagos de recetas médicas para 80 personas sin hogar, nuevos uniformes escolares para 32 niños sin hogar y medicamentos sin receta, suministros de artículos para primeros auxilios y de higiene personal para 2,392 personas sin hogar alojadas en los refugios
- Se aportaron fondos al Western Arizona Council of Governments (WACOG) para proveer asesoría sobre cómo prevenir ejecuciones hipotecarias a 25 hogares
- Se proporcionaron fondos a United Way para coordinar el Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) para ofrecer preparación de impuestos gratis, 664 personas recibieron ayuda
- Servicios de Alcance a Vecindarios fueron proveídos en el Vecindario Yuma High (YHN) y en el Vecindario Mesa Heights (MHN), incluyendo:
 - Publicación y distribución de 3 ejemplares, 4,000 copias de "A view from the Front Porch", boletín de vecindario en YHN y MHN
 - Se colaboró con el Yuma Community Food Bank para proveer distrubuciones de comida mensuales
 - Se colocaron puestos y se proporcionó información acerca de servicios disponibles en eventos vecinales
 - Cena de Gracias Anual en el Centro Vecinal Dr. Martin Luther King, aproximadamente 500 personas de bajos ingresos asistieron
 - Noche de Cine en el Centro Vecinal MLK, más de 80 jóvenes participaron

Después de la publicación de este anuncio, se inicia un periodo de comentarios de quince (15) días. Los comentarios pueden ser enviados por correo electrónico a Nikki.Hoogendoorn@YumaAZ.gov, en persona o por correo a Neighborhood Services, One City Plaza, Yuma, AZ 85364 o por teléfono (928) 373-5187, por fax al (928) 373-5188.

El Reporte Anual de Evaluación de Desempeño Consolidado (CAPER) completo puede ser examinado después del 10 de Septiembre del 2013 en el sitio www.ci.yuma.az.us o en los siguientes lugares:

City Clerk's Office and Department of Community Development, One City Plaza
Housing Authority of the City of Yuma (HACY), 420 Avenida Madison
Yuma County Library – Main Branch, 2951 S. 21 Drive y Heritage Branch, 350 3ra Avenida
Western Arizona Council of Governments (WACOG), 224 S. 3ra Avenida
MLK Neighborhood Center, 300 S. 13 Avenida

De acuerdo con el Ley de Americanos con Discapacidad (Americans with Disability Act, ADA) y con la sección 504 de la Ley de Rehabilitación de 1973, la Ciudad de Yuma no discrimina por motivos de discapacidad en la entrada o acceso a, o en el trato o empleo en, sus programas, actividades o servicios. Para información concerniente los derechos y provisiones de ADA o la Sección 504, o para solicitar acomodo razonable para participar en programas o actividades de la Ciudad o sus servicios, comuníquese con: ADA/Sección 504 Coordinador, City of Yuma Human Resources Division, One City Plaza, Yuma, AZ 85364; (928) 373-5125 or TTY (928) 373-5149.

Orientation set for Miss Yuma County hopefuls

BY SARAH WOMER
@YSSARAHWOMER

A second orientation will be held for those interested in becoming Miss Yuma County 2014. Prospective contestants and their parents are encouraged to attend the event, which will be held on Aug. 28 from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at Arizona Western College, 2020 S. Avenue 8E, in the 3C building. During the meeting,

there will be information presented about what the title of Miss Yuma County entails, the application process, the competition and eligibility requirements. Girls should be no younger than 17 at the time of the Miss Yuma County Scholarship Pageant on Nov. 2, and should be no older than 24 as of Dec. 31. Also, prospective contestants should be a U.S. citizen and a resident of Yuma County for at least

six months prior to competition. Current Miss Yuma County Ashley Vicks said that she's hoping to have a total of at least 15 girls come out to compete for the local title. "For years young women have benefited from involvement with the Miss Yuma County Scholarship Program. I am excited to work with members of the community to ensure that

this scholarship opportunity remains strong and expands in the future," said June Wolfe, executive director of the Miss Yuma County Scholarship program. Visit www.missyumacounty.org for more information. Those who cannot attend the orientation event but are still interested in becoming a contestant should contact Wolfe at missyumacounty@yahoo.com or 210-7770.

STORM

FROM PAGE A1

"It's certainly producing good strong winds and blowing dust," Pigett said. The strong winds pushed a mobile home onto the roadway at 20th Avenue and Colorado Street. A semi-trailer blew over near 26th Street and Araby Road, causing road closures in the area. Blowing dust limited visibility, causing several accidents. Police received multiple reports of collisions, which were still under investigation by press time. The police and fire departments asked citizens to remain indoors if at all possible. Along with the severe weather warning, the National Weather Service recommended that motorists encountering blowing dust while driving "pull over as far off the roadway as possible and park. Turn off your headlights and keep your foot off the brake."

AccuWeather meteorologist Pigett expected some areas just west of the city to receive an excess of three inches of rain. In areas east and northeast of Yuma, he called for one to 2 ½ inches of rain and flash floods. The meteorologist expected the storm to "collapse" at around 10 p.m. Yuma Fire Department spokesman Mike Erfert noted "some pretty heavy rain on the east side of town." A resident reported that water flooded a basement in the Tamarack neighborhood, off of 24th Street.

Officials closed Araby Road between East 32 Street and the Interstate 8 overpass due to flooding. No southbound traffic was permitted from the I-8/Araby exits. The fire department also reported several power poles and lines down in the area of 32nd Street at 8 ½ E and in front of Carver School. Power lines were also down at Avenue 7E north of Highway 95. Due to the power outage and the number of downed

PARENTS

FROM PAGE A1

Borquez are the parents of Edgar Borquez, the alleged driver in a hit-and-run collision with 14-year-old Mary Rodriguez while the girl was skateboarding early Saturday morning. Rodriguez succumbed to her injuries Sunday night at Phoenix Children's Hospital.

According to Prosecutor Karolyn Kaczorowski of the Yuma County Attorney's Office, Edgar Borquez allegedly went home and woke up his parents after the incident and told them what had happened. The parents allegedly took the car to the back of their home, covered it and later removed parts of the vehicle to be taken to Mexico for repairs. This allegedly took place even after news reports of the incident.

Edgar Borquez, 23, was arrested Monday at his home in the 8100 block of



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PHOTOS BY CRYSTAL OCHOA/YUMA SUN

A LIGHT POLE FELL ONTO a parked vehicle in the 200 block of 16th Avenue caused by high winds from the thunderstorm Thursday evening.



A POWER POLE AND LINES WERE down in the area of 32nd Street and Avenue 8½ E during the thunderstorm. Yuma Fire Department also reported power lines down in front of Carver School and in the general area of 21st Avenue between Colorado Street and 1st Street.

lines in the area, officials of the San Pasqual Valley Unified School District in Winterhaven, Calif., decided to cancel classes for Friday. The power outages affected several traffic lights. "For right now, it's mostly the disruption of roadways due to downed power lines. We encourage people to stay indoors, if you don't have to be out, until it blows over," Erfert said. "This is a good reminder

that when we encounter an intersection with the traffic lights out, treat it as you would treat a four-way stop. It's not just a good idea, it's the law." He also warned that people should also assume a downed power lines are live and stay away from them. As of press time, APS did not have an estimated time when power would be restored. "We have crews out every-

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BORQUEZ

FROM PAGE A1

edly running a red light, striking the victim resulting in her death and failing to stop.

Count 3: Driving under the influence of intoxicating liquor, a class 4 felony, for allegedly driving while impaired with a suspended, revoked or canceled driver's license and with a prior DUI conviction.

Count 4: Aggravated DUI, a class 6 felony, for allegedly driving with a suspended, revoked or canceled driver's license and while having a drug in the body.

Count 5: Aggravated DUI, a class 4 felony, for allegedly driving under the influence of intoxicating liquor while having two or more prior DUI violations. Lozano stated that Borquez had committed four DUI violations from 2010 to 2012.

Count 6: Aggravated DUI, a class 4 felony, for allegedly driving while having drugs in the body after being convicted of two or more DUI violations.

Count 7: Endangerment, a class 6 felony, for allegedly putting the life of an individual, identified only with the initials A.W. and born in 1987, in substantial danger of death.

Borquez asked for a public defendant, telling the judge that he was not employed, had earned \$100 to \$200 in income this month,

had no money in a bank account and did not own a car or real estate.

Prosecutor Roger Nelson of the Yuma County Attorney's Office asked for a \$650,000 cash-only bond, noting that second-degree murder is a "serious crime."

Rogers added that Borquez had allegedly left the scene of an accident involving the death of a person and made no attempt to aid, as well as pointing out that he was reportedly under the influence of alcohol and drugs.

Borquez also reportedly attempted to conceal the car with his parent's help and tried to destroy evidence.

Lozano agreed to keep the \$650,000 cash-only bond amount.

If he posted the bond, the judge told Borquez he would be released with the following conditions: he can't leave the state; he promises to appear at all hearings, obey all laws and have no contact with any victims; and he cannot drive without a license, registration or insurance.

Lozano also said Borquez is prohibited from contacting the co-defendants, his parents, Guadalupe Borquez, 57, and Olivia Borquez, 54.

Borquez's next hearing is set for 2 p.m. Aug. 30.

FUNERAL NOTICE

Oretta Ann 'Knippy' Knipmeyer Ness

Oretta Ann "Knippy" Knipmeyer Ness, 82, a former resident of Yuma, died July 17, 2013, at her home in Henderson, Nev.

Born Dec. 17, 1930, in Keytesville, Mo., she was an educator, academic advisor and guidance counselor.

A memorial service was held July 20 at Christ the Servant Lutheran Church in Henderson. Her cremains will be at Corder Cemetery at a later date. Memorials may be sent to Basic High School in Henderson, N.C., will be used to award student scholarships.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The United States Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground (USAG YPG) announces the availability of the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (DPEIS), in accordance with Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), to analyze the environmental impacts resulting from implementation of activities and operation at the Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) northeast of Yuma, Arizona, and a draft Programmatic Agreement (PA) in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The Notice of Availability (NOA) for this DPEIS was published in the Federal Register on August 16, 2013.

This document analyzes potential impacts from new construction, changes in testing and training, and activities conducted under private industry partnerships. Renewable energy initiatives are discussed in the DPEIS, but project-specific NEPA analysis will be required prior to implementing specific renewable energy initiatives. There are two alternatives analyzed in this DPEIS: (1) No Action which describes the conditions under which no new actions would occur. There would be no changes in testing and training activities conducted at YPG, and (2) the Proposed Action which includes new construction and associated demolition, testing and training activities occurring on YPG, and new testing and training proposed by tenants to meet anticipated testing or training needs. For the Proposed Action, the analysis is structured to allow the Army to select a subset of the proposed activities or, for certain activities, to select from among a range of options with regard to magnitude, frequency, or duration. The Army is not seeking to expand the boundaries of YPG and all proposed activities would be conducted within the boundaries of the installation or its currently authorized airspace. The PEIS will be used to develop a future Real Property Master Plan (RPMP) at YPG. At this time, a Preferred Alternative has not been selected. The Army will select a Preferred Alternative after consideration of input from government agencies, Native American tribes, non-governmental organizations, and members of the public.

A public meeting to discuss the DPEIS will be held on YPG from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at Building 6, the Desert Breeze Travel Camp Community Center, located on the Main Administrative Area off of Imperial Dam Road on Tuesday September 24, 2013. A second public meeting on the DPEIS will be held at the Yuma Public Library, 2951 South 21st Drive, Yuma AZ, 85364 on Wednesday September 25, 2013 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

The draft Section 106 PA addresses an ongoing program of operations and maintenance at YPG, as well as the activities considered in the DPEIS. USAG YPG determined that the development of a PA, in accordance with 36 Code of Federal Regulations § 800.14(b)(1)(ii) and (iv), is warranted because specific details on some projects are unknown and the effects on historic properties cannot be fully determined prior to their approval, and because of the routine nature of many actions that are part of the ongoing management and operation of YPG. The draft PA has been developed through consultation with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the Arizona State Historic Preservation Officer, and federally recognized tribes in the region, and will be available for review in order to provide an opportunity for members of the public to express their views on resolving adverse effects to historic properties that could result from the activities and operations at YPG.

The public comment period for the DPEIS officially begins with the publication of the NOA in the Federal Register and the document is available on the US EPA Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Database at <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/nepa/eisdata.html>. Comments on the DPEIS will be solicited through October 7, 2013. The DPEIS also will be available for review from August 23 through October 7, 2013, at the Yuma County Library, Main Branch, 2951 S. 21st Drive, the YPG Post Library, and the Foothills Branch Library, 13226 S Frontage Rd, Yuma, AZ. The Draft PA will be available for review at the same locations from September 2 through October 7, 2013. The public comment period for the draft Section 106 PA will be September 2 through October 7, 2013. The documents also can be viewed at the following website: http://www.yuma.army.mil/mhub_documents.html.

Final versions of the PEIS will be made available to the public for review and comment when completed. YPG will also accept public input throughout the NEPA process. All interested parties are invited to attend the public meetings and to submit comments or questions regarding the DPEIS by mail to Sergio Obregon, National Environmental Policy Act Coordinator, U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground, IMYM-PWE, 301 C Street, Yuma, Arizona 85365-9498, or e-mail usarmy.ypg.incom.mbx.nepa@mail.mil. By phone, contact Chuck Wullenjohn at (928) 328-6189 from 6:30 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Thursday. Comments or questions on the draft Section 106 PA should be submitted to Meg McDonald, Cultural Resources Manager, U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground, IMYM-PWE, 301 C Street, Yuma AZ 85365-9498 or email alison.m.mcdonald.civ@mail.mil.

00003319

Affidavit of Publication

STATE OF ARIZONA

COUNTY OF YUMA

CITY OF YUMA

I, Darlene Firestone being duly sworn on oath now and during all times herein stated, have been the publisher (or authorized representative of Publisher) and designated agent of the publication known as,

Bajo EL SOL ("Publication"), a newspaper of general circulation in the county of Yuma, State of Arizona, by Newspapers of Southwestern Arizona, Inc.,

And having full knowledge of the facts herein stated as follows:

The advertisement for YPG Public Notice ("Ad/Advertiser") was published to the Publication's full circulation as requested by Advertiser on the:

23rd Day of August, 2013.

By: Darlene Firestone

Subscribed and sworn to before me
This 23rd day of August, 2013.

Virgen P. Perez
Notary Public

Notary Seal:



Affidavit of Publication

STATE OF ARIZONA

COUNTY OF YUMA

CITY OF YUMA

I, Darlene Firestone being duly sworn on oath now and during all times herein stated, have been the publisher (or authorized representative of Publisher) and designated agent of the publication known as,

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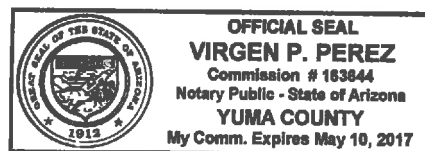
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By: 

Subscribed and sworn to before me,
This 23rd day of August, 2013.

Notary Seal:

Virgen P. Perez
Notary Public



Welcome to the Yuma Proving Ground

OPEN HOUSE

Public Meeting

Please sign in and take your time to view the informational exhibits.
Staff (with name tags) are available to answer your questions.

We appreciate your valuable time spent with us this evening.

YOUR OPINIONS ARE IMPORTANT.

**Please complete a comment card before you leave to
help guide the final decision on this proposed project.**

**For more information or to express your
opinions on this project, please contact:**

Sergio Obregon

National Environmental Policy Act Coordinator

U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground

IMYM-PWE

301 C Street, Yuma, Arizona 85365-9498

email: usarmy.ypg.imcom.mbx.nepa@mail.mil

By phone contact **Chuck Wullenjohn** at (928) 328-6189 from 6:30 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Thursday.



What is an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)?

The **National Environmental Policy Act** requires federal agencies to prepare an **EIS** to assess the environmental impacts of federal actions that could significantly affect the human environment.*

***The human environment includes...**Land, Air, Water, Living Organisms, and Cultural Resources.

NEPA requires federal agencies to consider the social and environmental impacts of federal projects. It also requires that the public be allowed to participate in the decision making process.

NEPA allows for multiple levels of analysis with an EIS being the most detailed.

An EIS document describes the effects from the proposed federal action as well as those from alternative actions that were considered. It also presents information on mitigation to reduce any impacts.*

*** An Impact is...** A change or consequence that results from an activity; it can be positive, negative or both. It may be mitigated to lessen or remove the impact.

How Do I Submit Comments?

Comments can be provided in person to the court reporter or in writing via the comment forms provided at this meeting. During the public review period, which ends October 7, 2013, additional comments can be submitted via mail or email to:

Comments can be submitted to:

Sergio Obregon

National Environmental Policy Act Coordinator

U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground

IMYM-PWE

301 C Street, Yuma, Arizona 85365-9498

email:usarmy.ypg.imcom.mbx.nepa@mail.mil

Why Have a Public Meeting?

Public Meetings provide the opportunity for the public and government agencies to gather information and provide formal oral or written comments on-the-record. Comments received during the public meeting will be included in the official public record along with an official response to each comment.

What is the Next Step?

After the public review period, YPG will consider the public and agency input and prepare the Final PEIS. The Final PEIS and all comments and responses on the Draft PEIS will be made available to the public.



What Will This DPEIS Address?

What Will This DPEIS Address?

This Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (DPEIS) will address implementation of multiple projects, which include:

- Construction and demolition of facilities and infrastructure
- Changes to testing and training activities
- Changes to testing and training areas

The DPEIS addresses two types of actions:

- Short-term, well-defined actions that would be implemented without additional NEPA analysis once a decision is made
- Long-term, less well-defined actions that would occur later in time and would receive additional site-specific NEPA analysis prior to project implementation

Why is This a Programmatic EIS?

This is a programmatic EIS because some activities are evaluated broadly and will require additional focused NEPA analysis prior to implementation.

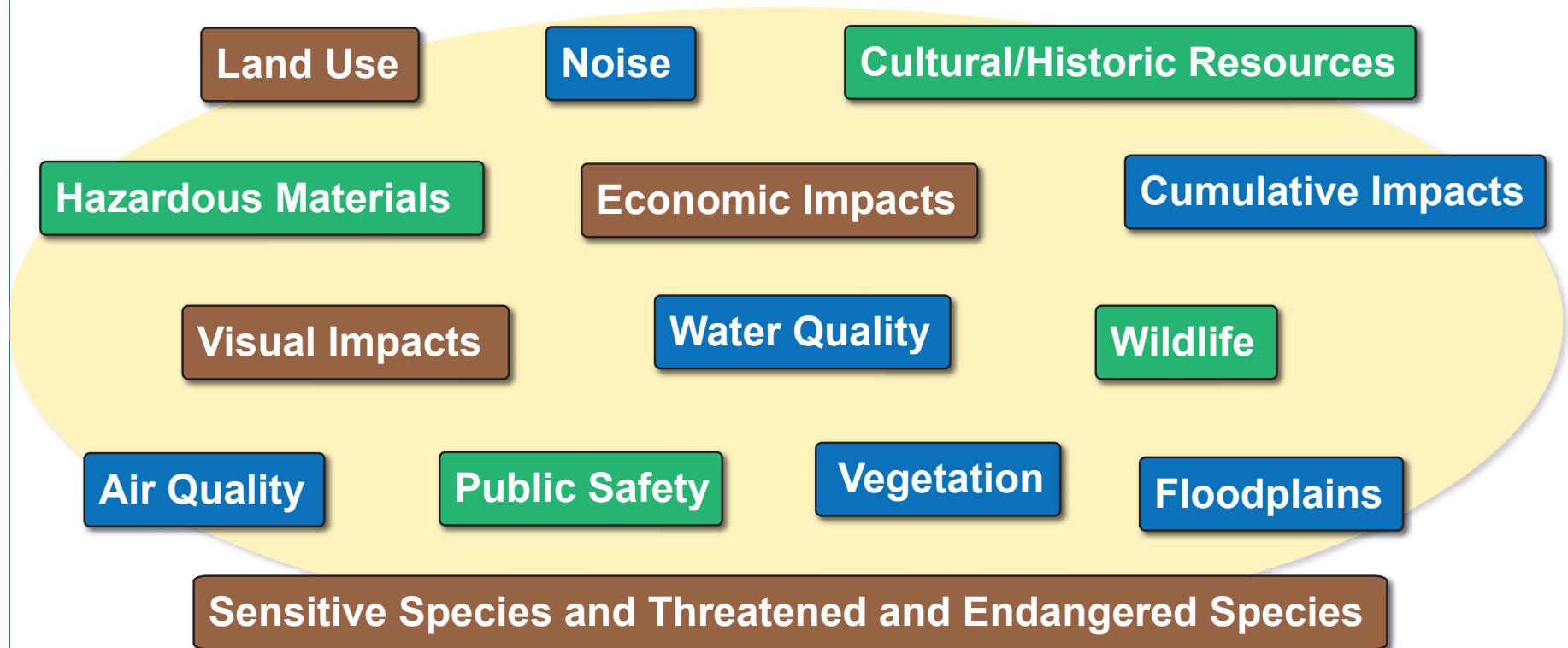
The broad analysis in this document will form the basis for subsequent NEPA analysis through a process called tiering.



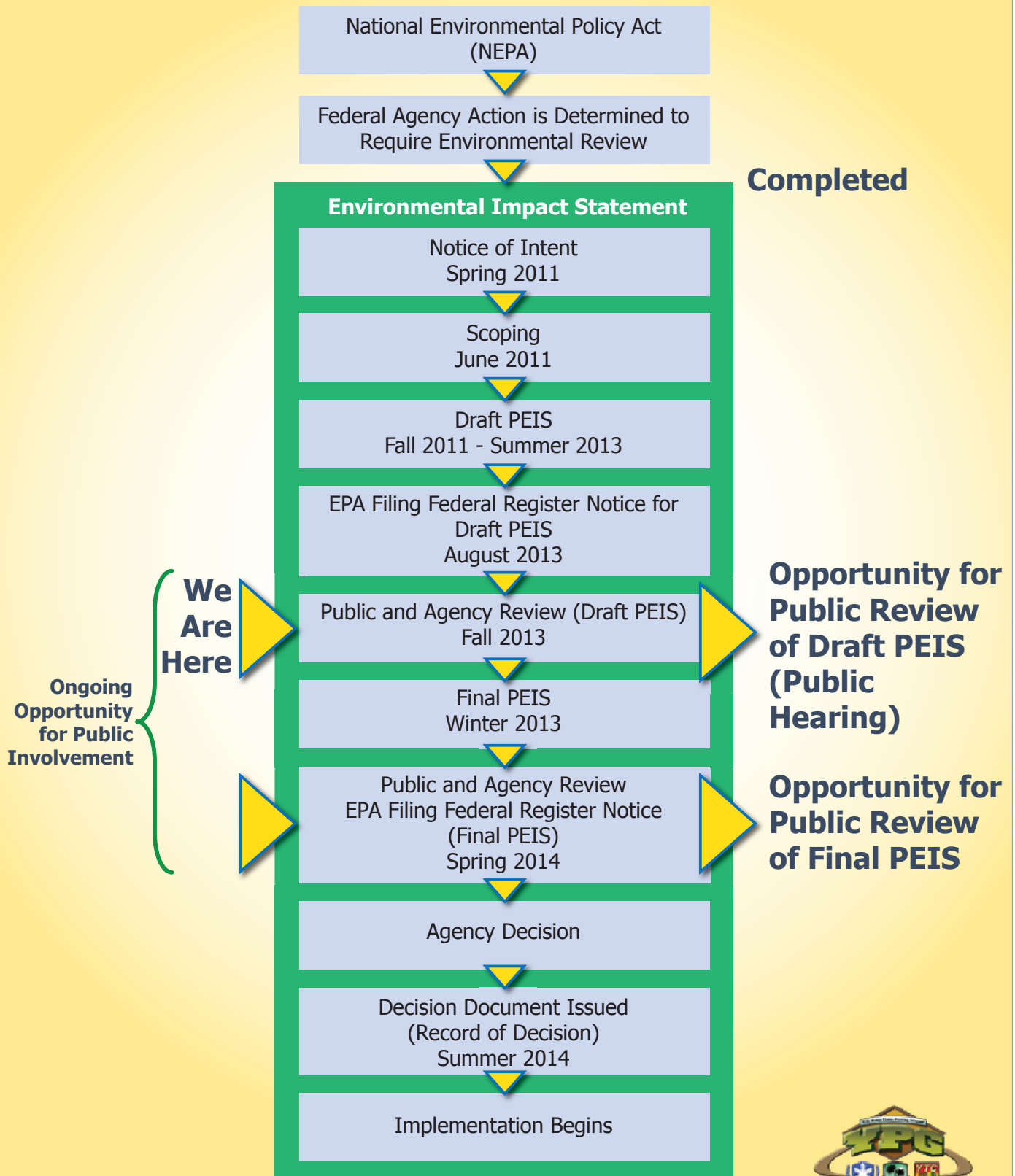
NEPA and Social, Economic, and Environmental Issues

Because this is a federal action, the Yuma Proving Ground Programmatic EIS will consider the potential impacts of considered alternatives. YPG will avoid, minimize, and mitigate potential adverse impacts to the extent practicable.

Typical resource areas evaluated include:

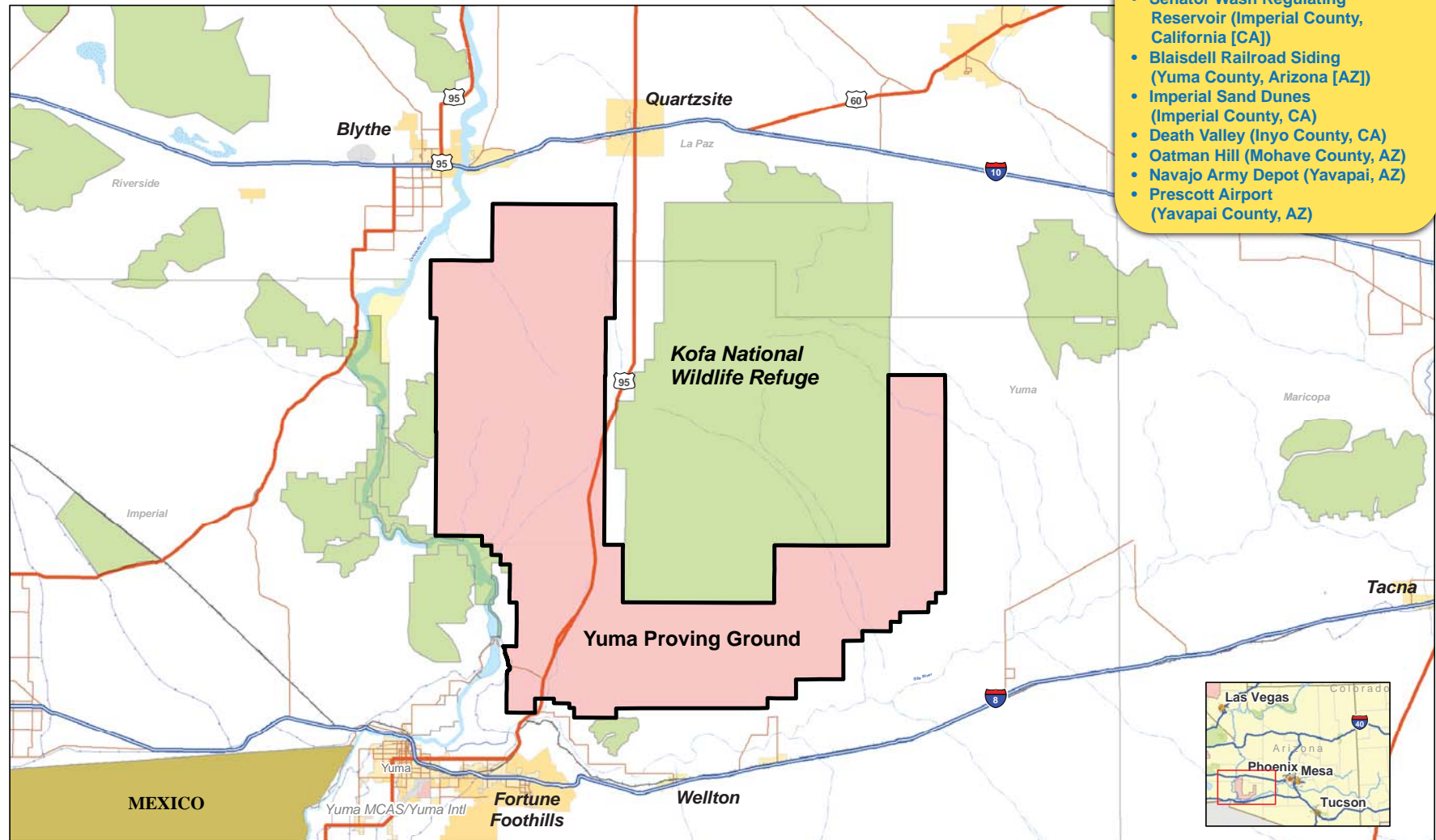


Schedule and Opportunities for Public Comment



Project Location

For Planning Purposes Only



Off-post locations not included in this Programmatic EIS

- Senator Wash Regulating Reservoir (Imperial County, California [CA])
- Blaisdell Railroad Siding (Yuma County, Arizona [AZ])
- Imperial Sand Dunes (Imperial County, CA)
- Death Valley (Inyo County, CA)
- Oatman Hill (Mohave County, AZ)
- Navajo Army Depot (Yavapai, AZ)
- Prescott Airport (Yavapai County, AZ)



0 10 20 Miles



Proposed Action

Activities Under Consideration

Under the Proposed Action, YPG would continue to operate as a multipurpose installation that serves a broad customer base. Activities anticipated at YPG include:

1. New Construction and Demolition of Facilities and Infrastructure
 - Buildings
 - Runways/Helipads
 - Utilities
2. Modified/Increased Testing
 - New sensors and systems
 - Increased range and power of weapons
 - Improvements in vehicle systems
 - Combat vehicles
3. Ongoing/New Training
4. Weapons Firing/Impact Areas
 - Small Arms/Inert
 - High Explosive
 - Gun Positions



Purpose and Need

Purpose of the Proposed Action

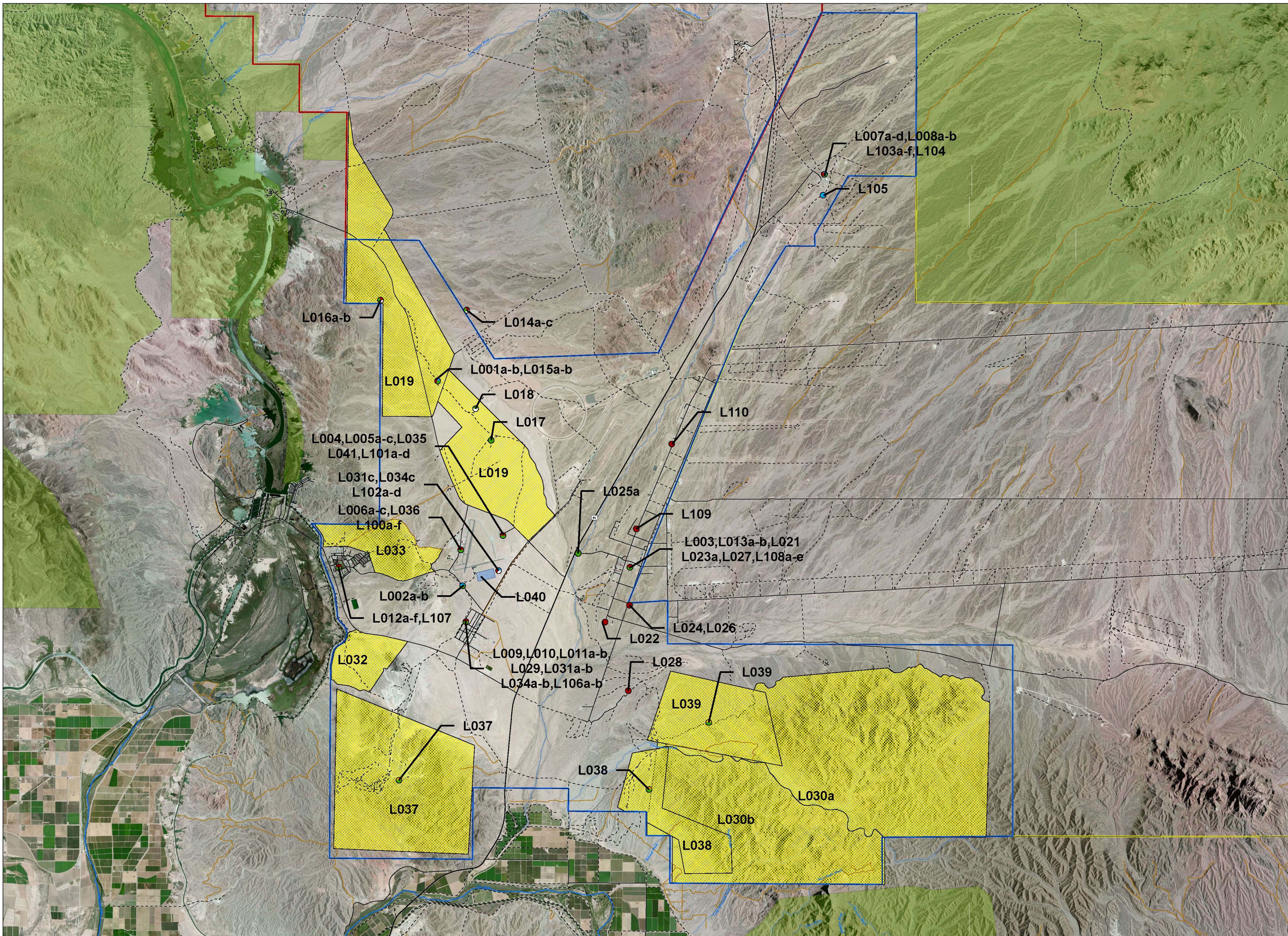
The purpose of the Proposed Action is to enable YPG to continue to meet its military mission by providing adequate facilities and infrastructure for:

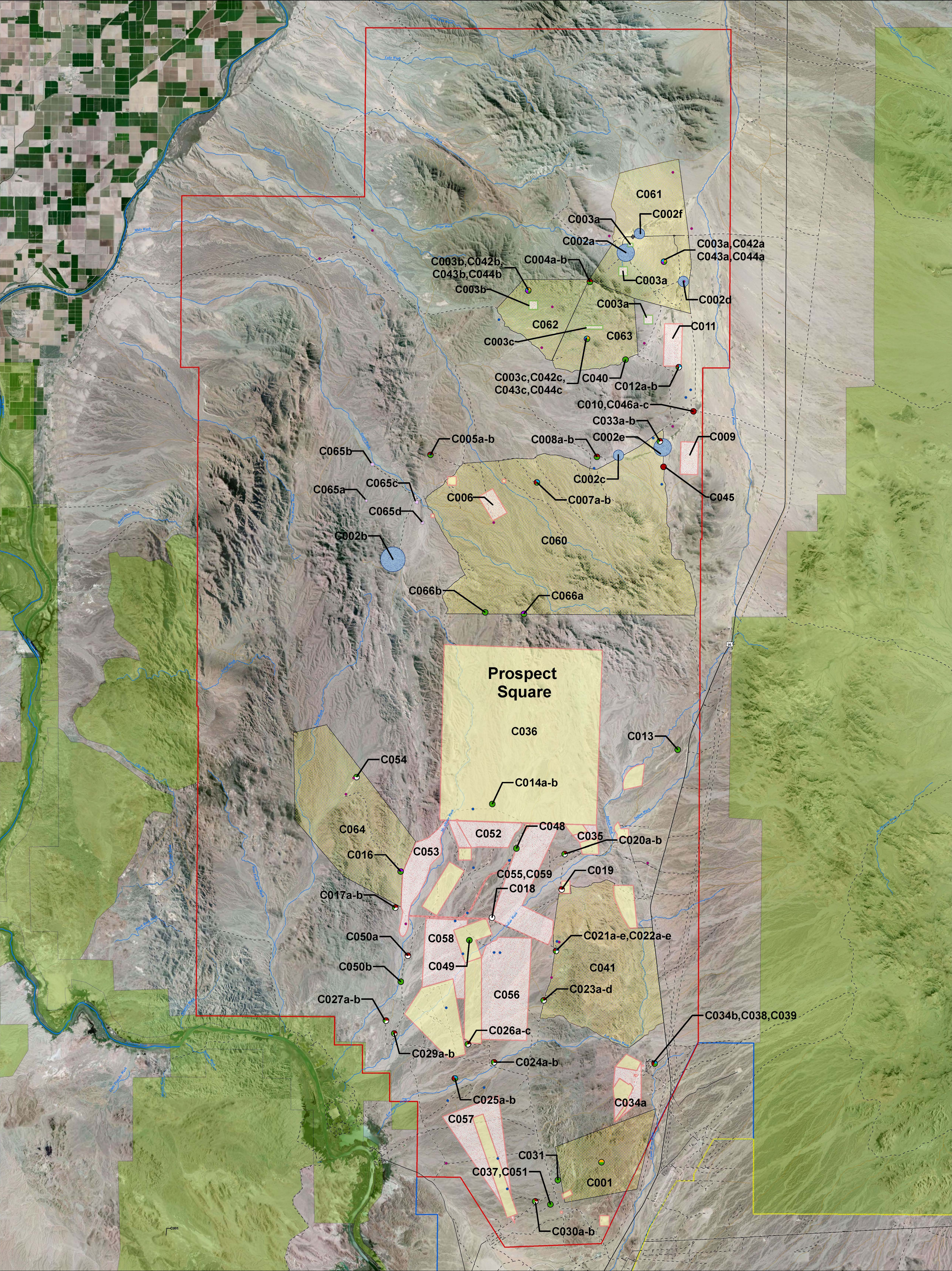
- Testing military ground and aerial vehicle systems
- Testing weapons, ammunition, sensors, and guidance systems
- Providing realistic military training
- Providing for private industry partnerships

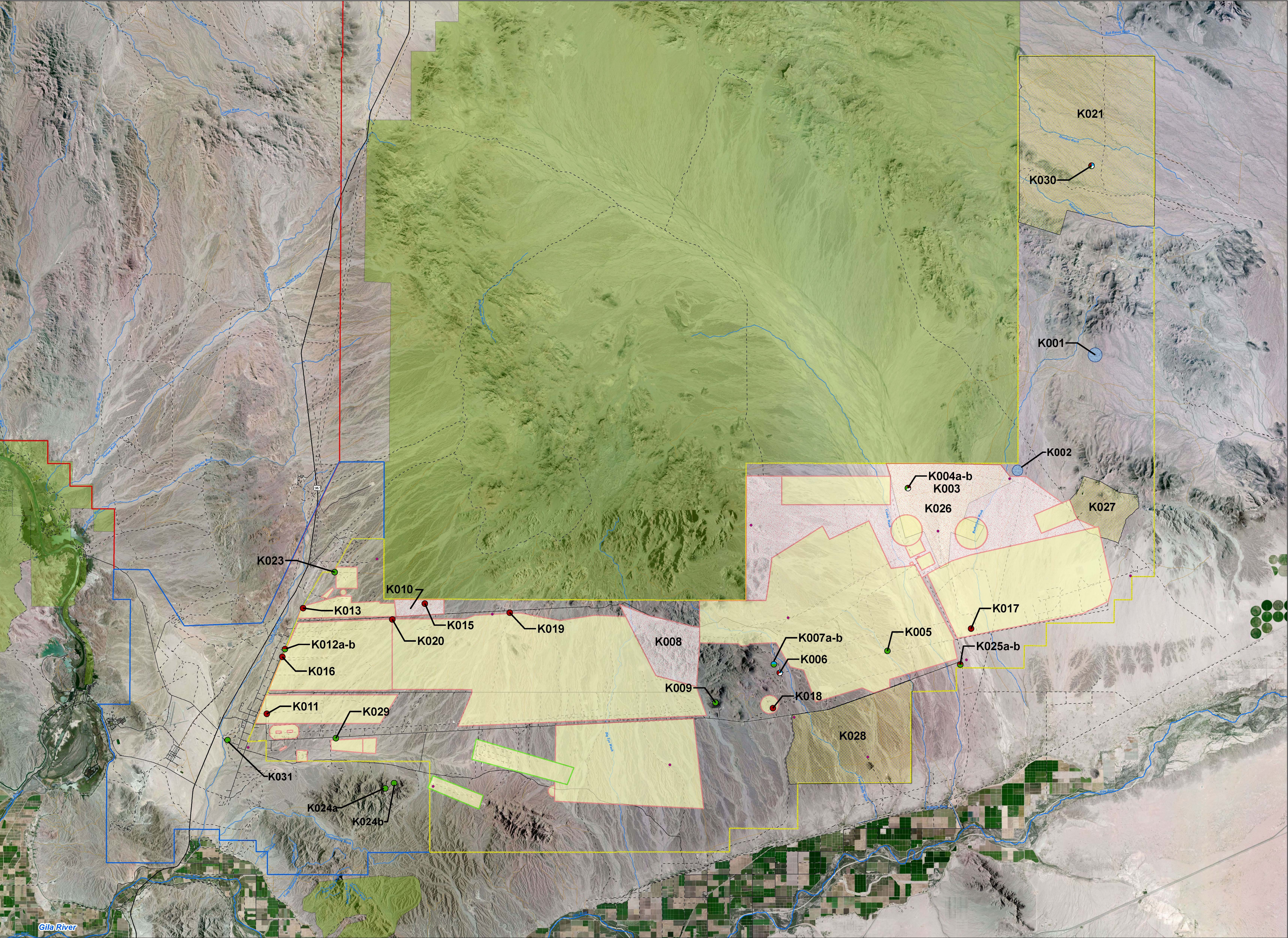
Need for the Proposed Action

The Proposed Action would ensure the readiness of U.S. forces and materiel to meet the demands of hot arid environment theaters around the world. The project would allow YPG to maintain a facility capable of state of the art testing of military ground and aerial vehicle systems, weapons, munitions, sensors, and guidance systems; to provide realistic training; and to allow flexibility to enter into Army/private industry projects.









Legend for Yuma Proposed Action Maps

Proposed Actions



Mounted Maneuvers / Vehicle Testing



Runway / Helipad Expansion or Construction



Munitions Firing Support



Building Construction



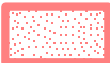
Infrastructure Construction



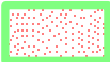
Dismounted Maneuvers



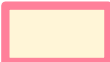
Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Launch and Recovery



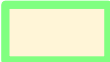
Proposed Impact Area (High Explosive)



Proposed Impact Area (Inert)



Existing Impact Area (High Explosive)



Existing Impact Area (Inert)



Proposed Drop Zone



Proposed Dismounted Maneuver Area



Sensor Site



Temporary Gun Position

TABLE 1
Proposed Action Activities – Laguna Region ^a
Yuma Proving Ground

ID	Description	ID	Description	ID	Description
Short Term Projects					
L001	L001-a: Construct building, concrete pad, shade structure, and install solar lights at K-9 Village L001-b: Install hard power/fiber, and communication service at K-9 Village.	L002	L002-a: Construct Runway 18/36 extension, and realign Barranca Road at Laguna Army Airfield (LAAF) L002-b: Install hard power at LAAF.	L003	Construct outdoor eating area at the Roadrunner Café.
L004	Construct office building next to Building 2968.	L005	L005-a: Construct medium and large storage buildings next to Building 2970. L005-b: Construct 2 office buildings next to Building 2970. L005-c: Construct Air Delivery Guided Test Facility next to Building 2970.	L006	L006-a: Construct Flight Detachment Maintenance Building L006-b: Construct Wild Horse Café L006-c: Construct antiterrorism/force protection (AT/FP) parking improvements.
L007	L007-a: Construct helicopter parking at Castle Dome Heliport (CDH) L007-b: Construct unmanned aircraft system (UAS) parking, UAS storage facility, and UAS maintenance hangar at CDH L007-c: Construct privately owned vehicle parking at CDH L007-d: Relocate C-130 CALA to CDH.	L008	L008-a: Construct access control point (ACP) at CDH L008-b: Construct roadway drainage improvements at CDH.	L009	Construct warehouse at Yuma Test Center (YTC)
L010	Construct Instrumentation Development Facility at YTC.	L011	L011-a: Construct tracked vehicle trail at YTC L011-b: Construct office at YTC.	L012	L012-a: Construct hotel at the Main Administrative Area (MAA) L012-b: Construct Emergency Operations Center (EOC) at MAA L012-c: Construct addition to youth services center at MAA L012-d: Construct ACP improvements at MAA L012-e: Construct child development center for school-aged services L012-f: Construct outdoor eating area at Coyote Lanes bowling alley.

TABLE 1
Proposed Action Activities – Laguna Region ^a
Yuma Proving Ground

ID	Description	ID	Description	ID	Description
L013	L013-a: Construct additional fencing and support facilities to the Threat Systems and Target Simulations Buildings 3572 and 3574 L013-b: Install hard power, fiber, and phone service to the Threat Systems and Target Simulations Buildings 3572 and 3574.	L014	L014-a: Construct aircraft shelter, command and control building, and clear a UAS launch/recovery area at Comanche Flats L014-b: Construct multiple buildings, concrete pad, water tank, POL storage area, and graded parking area at Comanche Flats L014-c: Install hard power/fiber and communication service at Comanche Flats.	L015	L015-a: Repair landing pad and construct building at K-9 Village L015-b: Install hard power, fiber, and communication service at K-9 Village.
L016	L016-a: Construct building, concrete or asphalt pad, shade structure, and install solar lights at Site 2 L016-b: Install hard power, fiber, and communication service at Site 2.	L017	Construct ground control stations for UAS operations at Telemetry (TM) Site 4.	L018	Construct concrete or asphalt pad and sensor tower east of existing sensor test building at Sidewinder Sensor Site.
L019	Expand and combine West LA Light Maneuver Training Area (LTA), K-9 Village LTA, Site 2 LTA, and Site 4 LTA.	L020	Upgrade equipment at Tire X-Ray Facility (Building 2310). ^a	L021	Construct solar chamber at Climatic Simulation Facilities (Building 3527).
L022	Relocate dust chamber from Building 3352 to near Buildings 3357 and 3494 (Rough Handling).	L023	L023-a: Improve ACP at the Kofa cantonment L023-b: Construct joint wash rack for tracked and government owned vehicles (GOVs) at the Kofa cantonment L023-c: Construct electric substation protection and electronics expansion at the Kofa cantonment L023-d: Construct Howitzer Support\ Acceptance Facility at the Kofa cantonment L023-e: Construct open storage facility at the Kofa cantonment.	L024	Relocate Semi-trailer Delivery Safe Haven.
L025	L025-a: Construct Aberdeen Road flood upgrades L025-b: Construct range road improvements.	L026	Construct munitions treatment facility.	L027	Construct gun storage facility at the Kofa cantonment.

TABLE 1
Proposed Action Activities – Laguna Region ^a
Yuma Proving Ground

ID	Description	ID	Description	ID	Description
L028	Construct five ammunition magazines near the Kofa cantonment.	L029	Construct optical maintenance facility, graded parking area with power pole farm, and perimeter fencing centered at YTC.	L030	L030: Expand LTA to support operational testing and dismounted maneuvers at Muggins/Middle East: L030-a: 16,640 ac L030-b: 6,331 ac
L031	L031: Construct MFFS Dining Facility (DFAC) (one option to be selected): L031-a: Location Option 1 L031-b: Location Option 2 L031-c: Location Option 3	L032	Expand Bravo LTA.	L033	Expand Hill 630 LTA
L034	L034: Construct MFFS Ready Room (one option to be selected): L034-a: Location Option 1 L034-b: Location Option 2 L034-c: Location Option 3	L035	Construct Armament Test Operations and Analysis Facility.	L036	Construct Shower Facility at LAAF Forward Operating Base area.
L037	Construct vehicle test course.	L038	Construct vehicle test course.	L039	Construct vehicle test course
L040	Construct drop zone near LAAF (DZ) (984-foot [ft] x 1,969-ft)	L041	Construct air delivery storage and laboratory facility behind Building 2970	L042	Upgrade facility to an office and hangar in Building 3025 ^a
Long-Term Projects					
L100	L100-a: Construct addition to Building 3021 L100-b: Construct Future Combat Systems (FCS) Rotary Class IV hangars, and FCS large Class IV hangar west of LAAF L100-c: Construct large transient UAS hangar with pad access west of LAAF L100-d: Construct aviation growth hangar L100-e: Construct administrative support building to the west of LAAF L100-f: Construct U.S. Army Special Operations Command Tactical Hangar at LAAF.	L101	L101-a: Construct motor pool to the north of LAAF L101-b: Construct addition to ammunition building rigging bay to the north of LAAF L101-c: Construct access from Ocotillo Road and ammunition building access road improvements to the north of LAAF L101-d: Construct storage yard improvements to the north of LAAF.	L102	L102-a: Construct new MFFS Terminal at LAAF/MAA L102-b: Construct consolidated rigger facility at LAAF/MAA L102-c: Construct UAS airfield, hangars, taxiways, and UAS flight test area and other supporting infrastructure at LAAF/MAA L102-d: Construct CASA Transport Aircraft Hangar at LAAF/MAA.

TABLE 1
Proposed Action Activities – Laguna Region ^a
Yuma Proving Ground

ID	Description	ID	Description	ID	Description
L103	L103-a: Construct fire station at CDH L103-b: Construct fuel point at CDH L103-c: Construct C-130 parking at CDH L103-d: Construct hot cargo refueling area at CDH L103-e: Construct dining facility at CDH L103-f: Construct airship hangar at CDH.	L104	Construct water and wastewater treatment facilities at CDH.	L105	Construct crosswind runway at CDH.
L106	L106-a: Construct 4 administrative support buildings at YTC L106-b: Construct Installation Logistics Complex at YTC.	L107	Construct improvements to Cox Field, AT/FP, and Garrison headquarters, and convert Street D to pedestrian walkway.	L108	L108-a: Improve truck ACP at the Kofa cantonment L108-b: Expand range communication at the Kofa cantonment L108-c: Expand sand blasting at the Kofa cantonment L108-d: Consolidate optics at the Kofa cantonment L108-e: Construct second GOV and tracked vehicle maintenance facility at the Kofa cantonment.
L109	Construct wax plant expansion at the Kofa cantonment.	L110	Construct additional ammunition plant similar to Building 3482 and air-conditioned chamber near the Kofa cantonment.	L111	Upgrade equipment and electrical supply at Physical Test Facility (Buildings 3490 and 3130). ^a
L112	Upgrade equipment in vibration test facilities (Buildings 3496, 3495, and 3594) ^a	L113	Upgrade equipment at radiography facility (Building 3493) ^a		

^a Work that would occur within existing buildings is not identified on maps because there would be no environmental impacts.

Note: Some project identifiers in maps represent unrelated activities that are grouped due to geographical proximity. Those that include a letter with the identifier are considered independent activities. Graphic representation on maps may be larger or smaller than the project area.

TABLE 2
Proposed Action Activities – Cibola Region ^{a,b,c}
Yuma Proving Ground

ID	Description	ID	Description	ID	Description
Short Term Projects					
C001	Construct vehicle test course.	C002	C002-a: Construct South Urban DZ (1,640-ft radius) south of Urban DZ, C002-b: Construct Tomahawk Circular DZ 769 (2,297-ft radius), C002-c: Construct Tombstone DZ (984-ft radius), C002-d: Construct Village Circular DZ (984-ft radius), C002-e: Construct Abken DZ (1,640-ft radius), C002-f: Construct Urban Circular Joint Precision Airdrop System DZ (984-ft radius).	C003	C003-a: Establish small arms impact areas for inert munitions at (Joint Experimentation Range Complex) JERC I. Small arms impact area would use collection boxes for fired ammunition and would be cleaned between tests. C003-b: Establish small arms impact areas for inert munitions at JERC II. Small arms impact area would use collection boxes for fired ammunition and would be cleaned between tests. C003-c: Establish small arms impact areas for inert munitions at JERC III. Small arms impact area would use collection boxes for fired ammunition and would be cleaned between tests.
C004	C004-a: Construct facilities at Gauna Peak C004-b: Install hard power/fiber and communication service at Gauna Peak.	C005	C005-a: Construct building at Site 18 C005-b: Install hard power, water, sewer and communication service at Site 18.	C006	Establish Phoenix West Impact Area.
C007	C007-a: Construct runway extension, aircraft shelter, and POL storage at Phoenix UAS site C007-b: Install hard power/fiber and communication service at Phoenix UAS site.	C008	C008-a: Construct building at Site 16 C008-b: Install hard power, water, sewer, and communication service at Site 16.	C009	Establish North UAS Impact Area.

TABLE 2

Proposed Action Activities – Cibola Region ^{a,b,c}
Yuma Proving Ground

ID	Description	ID	Description	ID	Description
C010	Construct aircraft shelter, POL storage, and graded parking lot at North Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) complex.	C011	Establish La Posa West Impact Area.	C012	C012-a: Construct building and concrete pad at Persistent Surveillance Systems Test Area (west of La Posa DZ) C012-b: Install hard power/fiber at Persistent Surveillance Systems Test Area (west of La Posa DZ).
C013	Install hard power/fiber and communication service at Electronic Common Use Test area.	C014	C014-a: Install shade structure to Stinger Pole Target Area C014-b: Install hard power to Stinger Pole Target Area.	C015	Construct Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance/Electro-optical (ISR/EO) Ground Truth Reference Sites at: C015-a: Yuma Wash centered at (33.156, -114.485) C015-b: Middle Mountain Road centered at (33.063, -114.358) C015-c: Mule Wash centered at (33.432, -114.503) C015-d: Centered at (33.446, -114.471) C015-e: Centered at (33.477, -114.286) C015-f: Centered at (33.444, -114.325) C015-g: Centered at (33.448, -114.275) C015-h: Centered at (33.421, -114.279) C015-i: Centered at (33.408, -114.279) C015-j: Centered at (33.389, -114.303) C015-k: Centered at (33.387, -114.366) C015-l: Centered at (33.347, -114.286) C015-m: Centered at (33.297, -114.395) C015-n: Centered at (33.165, -114.480) C015-o: Centered at (33.122, -114.299) C015-p: Centered at (33.090, -114.447) C015-q: Centered at (33.081, -114.353)

TABLE 2

Proposed Action Activities – Cibola Region ^{a,b,c}
Yuma Proving Ground

ID	Description	ID	Description	ID	Description
					C015-r: Centered at (33.967, -114.422)
C016	Rebuild target for long-range missile firing at Maverick Target.	C017	C017-a: Construct building, bomb-proof shelter, shade structure, concrete or asphalt pad, and sensor tower at camera mount (CM) 4 C017-b: Install phone service at CM 4.	C018	Construct landing pad at CM 1.
C019	Construct building and concrete pad at Z-12.	C020	C020-a: Construct sensor tower, buildings, and concrete pad at Site 9 C020-b: Install hard power and communication service at Site 9.	C021	C021-a: Construct secure building with reinforced concrete floors and ramp to building centered at (-114.356, 33.077) C021-b: Construct multiple buildings, water tank, POL storage area, and graded parking centered at (-114.356, 33.077) C021-c: Construct aircraft shelter centered at (-114.356, 33.077) C021-d: Clear a launch/recovery area centered at (-114.356, 33.077) C021-e: Install hard power/fiber and communication service centered at (-114.356, 33.077).
C022	C022-a: Construct building, concrete slab, walkways, and fencing centered at (-114.36, 33.074) C022-b: Construct aircraft shelter centered at (-114.36, 33.074) C022-c: Construct POL storage centered at (-114.36, 33.074) C022-d: Relocate meteorological tower centered at (-114.36, 33.074) C022-e: Construct runway expansion and taxiway centered at (-114.36, 33.074).	C023	C023-a: Construct multiple buildings, water tank, POL storage area, and graded parking centered at (-114.363, 33.051) C023-b: Construct aircraft shelter centered at (-114.363, 33.051) C023-c: Clear a launch/recovery area centered at (-114.363, 33.051) C023-d: Install hard power/fiber and communication service centered at (-114.363, 33.051)	C024	C024-a: Construct shelter, concrete pad, graded parking area near Inverted Range Control Center (IRCC) Tank Maintenance and Storage Ramada C024-b: Install fence and solar lights around IRCC Tank Maintenance and Storage Ramada compound.

TABLE 2

Proposed Action Activities – Cibola Region ^{a,b,c}
Yuma Proving Ground

ID	Description	ID	Description	ID	Description
C025	C025-a: Construct runway, taxiway, aircraft shelter, and building adjacent to existing helicopter pad at IRCC C025-b: Install hard power/fiber adjacent to existing helicopter pad at IRCC.	C026	C026-a: Construct ramp to existing building, rollup door to existing building, and install solar lights at Site 10 Missile Test Facility C026-b: Construct concrete landing pad at Site 10 Missile Test Facility C026-c: Install hard power/fiber at Site 10 Missile Test Facility.	C027	C027-a: Expand flat area on top of hill, and construct facility, concrete pad, and sensor tower at Site 12. C027-b: Construct road leading from the sensor building on the top of the hill at Site 12A down to the Persistent Threat Detection System Site.
C028 ^c		C029	C029-a: Construct buildings and concrete pad at Aerostat Mooring Site C029-b: Install generators and hard power/fiber at Aerostat Mooring Site.	C030	C030-a: Construct aircraft shelter, multiple buildings, water tank, POL storage area, graded parking area, and clear a launch/recovery area east of Rocket Alley C030-b: Install hard power/fiber and communication service east of Rocket Alley.
C031	Utilize Site 6 as a meteorological station.	C032	Renovate Large Multi-Purpose Environmental Chamber (Building 6015). ^a	C033	C033-a: Construct aircraft shelter, multiple buildings, concrete pad, water tank, POL storage area, graded parking area and clear a launch/recovery area at C-17 C033-b: Install hard power/fiber and communication service at C-17.
C034	C034-a: Expand size of Graze Range Impact Areas by consolidating 7 individual impact areas into a single larger area C034-b: Install hard power to Graze Range.	C035	Expand Combined Live Fire Exercise Range at OP-9 by consolidating 2 designated impact areas and Prospect Square.	C036	Increase use of Prospect Square for bombing or aircraft gunnery.
C037	Install hard power to 40-foot (ft) drop tower.	C038	Construct MEDEVAC pad at Castle Dome Annex (CDA)	C039	Construct air-conditioned storage facility at CDA.
C040	Install hard power to Cibola Region North Range.	C041	Expand Light Maneuver Training Area (LTA) to support operational testing and dismounted maneuver training at Middle Mountain.	C042	C042-a: Install relocatable instrumentation trailers along all JERC I roads. Instrumentation trailers would be moved to accommodate specific

TABLE 2

Proposed Action Activities – Cibola Region ^{a,b,c}
Yuma Proving Ground

ID	Description	ID	Description	ID	Description
					testing requirements. Each 20-foot instrumentation trailer requires a staging area with a 20-foot radius. C042-b: Install relocatable instrumentation trailer along all JERC II roads with the same properties as described for C042-a. C042-c: Install relocatable instrumentation trailer along all JERC III roads with the same properties as described for C042-a.
C043	C043-a: Temporarily bury simulated missiles, explosives, etc. off all JERC I roads for sensor testing. Locations for temporary burials would vary and be determined by specific testing requirements. C043-b: Temporarily bury simulated missiles, explosives, etc. off all JERC II roads for sensor testing. Locations for temporary burials would vary and be determined by specific testing requirements. C043-c: Temporarily bury simulated missiles, explosives, etc. off all JERC III roads for sensor testing. Locations for temporary burials would vary and be determined by specific testing requirements.	C044	C044-a: Clear medical evacuation (MEDEVAC) helicopter landing pad at JERC I for evacuations. C044-b: Clear MEDEVAC helicopter landing pad at JERC II for evacuations. C044-c: Clear MEDEVAC helicopter landing pad at JERC III for evacuations.	C045	Construct MFFS Forward Staging Area.
C046	North UAV Compound Expansion C046-a: Construct concrete pad C046-b: Grade project area and install fencing C046-c: Construct	C047	Create 23 new Transient Gun Positions (TGPs) at: C047-a: Rocket Alley C047-b: CM9 East C047-c: Cibola Target Boundary GP C047-d: Site 16	C048	Install hard power to Detection and Recognition Target Array target in the Cibola Range.

TABLE 2
Proposed Action Activities – Cibola Region ^{a,b,c}
Yuma Proving Ground

ID	Description	ID	Description	ID	Description
	asphalt taxiway		C047-e: CM9 West C047-f: C17 North and South C047-g: Mound C Archer GP C047-h: Mound C GP C047-i: CM1 West C047-j: La Posa DZ C047-k: Site 8 GP C047-l: West Target Road GP C047-m: BM1072 C047-n: Excalibur SW GP C047-o: LADZ GP C047-p: Site 18 GP C047-q: 2.75 Rocket GP C047-r: Ehrenberg GP C047-s: DFR GP C047-t: La Posa South DZ C047-u: Water Tank GP C047-v: LA DZ East C047-w: C17 North M777LWH GP		
C049	Install acoustic and seismic sensor at Horizontal Impact Area.	C050	C050-a: Construct building at Simulated Minefield Site to support UAS operations C050-b: Install hard power, water, sewer, and communication service at Simulated Minefield Site.	C051	Install shade structure at Lightweight Shock Facility.
C052	Establish CM 7 Impact Area.	C053	Establish CM 4 North Impact Area.	C054	Construct Yuma Wash ECUT expansion
C055	Establish Multi-Purpose North Impact Area.	C056	Establish Multi-Purpose South Impact Area.	C057	Expand Rocket Alley Impact Area.
C058	Establish Aerial Weapons Impact Area.	C059	Establish East Target Road Impact Area.	C060	Create LTA to support operational testing and dismounted maneuver training at TOW Town.
C061	Create LTA to support operational testing and dismounted maneuver training at JERC I/Saderville.	C062	Create LTA to support operational testing and dismounted maneuver training at JERC II.	C063	Create LTA to support operational testing and dismounted maneuver training at JERC III.

TABLE 2

Proposed Action Activities – Cibola Region ^{a,b,c}*Yuma Proving Ground*

ID	Description	ID	Description	ID	Description
C064	Create LTA to support operational testing and dismounted maneuver training at Yuma Wash.	C065	C065: Create LRA Impact Area C065-a: LRA Impact Area 1 C065-b: LRA Impact Area 2 C065-c: LRA Impact Area 3 C065-d: LRA Impact Area 4	C066	C066-a: Construct aerial cable drop site for drop testing in mountains north of Prospect Square. Activity includes two cables suspended between mountain peaks, winches and pulleys for each cable, 328-ft radius target area C066-b: Construct an approximately 2.5-mile access trail to the target area in mountains north of Prospect Square.

^a Measurements are approximate.^b Work that would occur within existing buildings is not identified on maps because there would be no environmental impacts^c The project proposed as C028 has been removed from direct analysis in this document. Due to a time critical need for implementation, this activity was analyzed through a separate and specific NEPA document. This activity is considered in the analysis of cumulative impacts in this document.

Note: Some project identifiers in maps represent unrelated activities that are grouped due to geographical proximity. Those that include a letter with the identifier are considered independent activities. Graphic representation on maps may be larger or smaller than the project area.

TABLE 3
Proposed Action Activities – Kofa Region ^a
Yuma Proving Ground

ID	Description	ID	Description	ID	Description
Short-Term Projects					
K001	Construct a 1,640-ft radius DZ for personnel and cargo drops in southern portion of East Arm.	K002	Construct 1,250-ft radius DZ for personnel and cargo drops northeast of East Smart Weapons Test Range (SWTR) Impact Area.	K003	Expand munitions impact area from north boundary of Echo and Foxtrot to north boundary of contaminated area (Advanced Munitions Range).
K004	K004-a: Construct aircraft shelter, multiple buildings, water tank, POL storage area, graded parking area, and clear a launch/recovery area at SWTR K004-b: Install hard power/fiber and communication service at SWTR.	K005	Install hard power/fiber and communication service at Tower L.	K006	Install launch/recovery systems and a ground control station trailer at Tower 48.
K007	K007-a: Construct runway west of S-15 Command and Control Shelter. K007-b: Install hard power/fiber and communication service west of S-15 Command and Control Shelter.	K008	Expand munitions impact area to encompass area between Impact Areas Delta and Echo.	K009	Install fiber and permanent Improved Vehicle Tracking System (IVTS) and telemetry relays at Windy Hill.
K010	Expand munitions impact area north of North Boundary Road between GP (gun position) 21A and Impact Area Alpha (Advanced Munitions Range).	K011	Renovate site and construct new control room and firing chamber at GP 5.	K012	K012-a: Construct two permanent reinforced concrete buildings to house personnel, equipment and ammunition, and new access road at GP 18 K012-b: Install hard power and communication services at GP 18.
K013	Construct permanent reinforced concrete building and additional building to house weapons GP 21.	K014	Construct ISR/EO Ground Truth Reference Sites at: K014-a: centered at (32.846, -114.336) K014-b: centered at (32.967, -114.239) K014-c: centered at (32.932, -114.151) K014-d: centered at (32.822, -114.196) K014-e: centered at (32.990, -113.955) K014-f: centered at (32.930, -113.926) K014-g: centered at (32.836, -114.016)	K015	Construct permanent building at GP 21A.

TABLE 3
Proposed Action Activities – Kofa Region ^a
Yuma Proving Ground

ID	Description	ID	Description	ID	Description
			K014-h: centered at (32.867, -113.922) K014-i: centered at (32.841, -113.866) K014-j: centered at (32.986, -113.812) K014-k: centered at (32.904, -113.791) K014-l: centered at (32.020, -113.758) K014-m: centered at (32.957, -113.666)		
K016	Construct permanent building at GP 17A.	K017	Construct permanent building at GP on Growl Road in southeast corner of Echo Munitions Impact Area.	K018	Construct permanent reinforced concrete building at GP Splinter.
K019	Construct permanent reinforced concrete building at GP 19.1.	K020	Construct permanent reinforced concrete building at GP 11.1.	K021	Create LTA to support operational testing and dismounted maneuver training at East Arm.
K022	Establish up to 12 TGP's within Alpha, Bravo, Charlie, Delta, Echo or Foxtrot munitions impact areas on Kofa Firing Range annually.	K023	Install hard power and communication services to Hazard Classification Deflagration test area.	K024	K024-a: Construct aerial cable drop site for drop testing in mountains south of Pole Line Road. Activity includes two cables suspended between mountain peaks, winches and pulleys for each cable, 328-ft target area K024-b: Construct an approximately 0.6-mile access trail to the target area in mountains south of Pole Line Road.
K025	K025-a: Construct East Kofa Operations Center which includes a small building complex, perimeter fencing, vehicle maintenance area, storage areas, tactical vehicle wash rack, and 40-ton crane K025-b: Install hard power, communication, water well, and septic system at East Kofa Operations Center.	K026	Expand LTA to support operational testing and dismounted maneuver training at SWTR.	K027	Create LTA to support operational testing and dismounted maneuver training at Tower 71.
K028	Create LTA to support operational testing and dismounted maneuver training	K029	Extend water line from Countermine Test and Training Range to Bldg	K030	Construct runway, taxiway, aircraft shelter, command and control

TABLE 3
Proposed Action Activities – Kofa Region ^a
Yuma Proving Ground

ID	Description	ID	Description	ID	Description
	at SCAM Flats.	3970 and Bldg 3971.	Install fire suppression system in Bldg 3971.		room, simulator training room, class room, maintenance area, POL storage area, graded area for parking, concrete or asphalt pad, and clear area for UAS launch/recovery at East Arm.
K031	Construct lagoon for Kofa Sewage Lagoon Expansion.				

^a Measurements are approximate.

Note: Some project identifiers in maps represent unrelated activities that are grouped due to geographical proximity. Those that include a letter with the identifier are considered independent activities. Graphic representation on maps may be larger or smaller than the project area.

Natural Resources



Cultural Resources

Why do we need a Section 106 Programmatic Agreement (PA)?

To address potential effects on historic properties from:

- 1) the Army's routine, ongoing operations and maintenance activities at YPG.
- 2) the PEIS proposed projects, some of which currently lack specific details.

What is the relationship between the PA and PEIS?

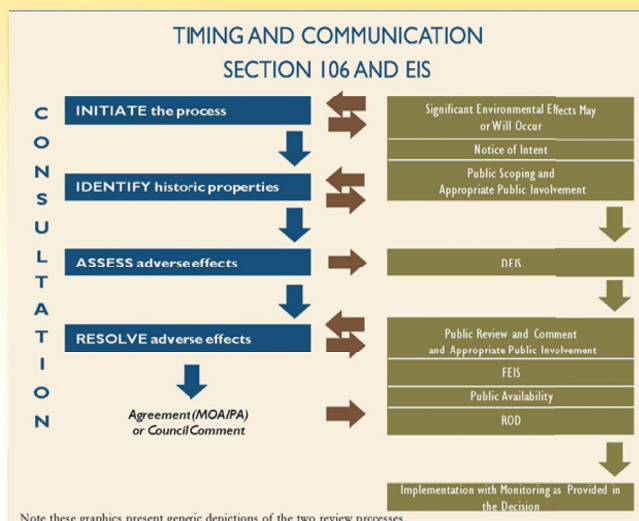
- NEPA and National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) are independent regulations but work in coordination with each other.
- NEPA PEIS concludes with a signed ROD; Section 106 concludes with an executed PA.
- Agencies must complete NEPA and Section 106 reviews before making a formal decision.

What are the requirements of the PA?

- Cultural resources surveys will be done in those areas where undertakings are proposed and funded.
- Some lands at YPG will require no further cultural resources survey.
- YPG, in consultation with the SHPO and tribes, will define those lands.
- YPG will consult with tribes and communities to identify potential Traditional Cultural Properties.
- All undertakings with a finding of "No Historic Properties Affected" will require no further review.
- For undertakings that may affect historic properties, YPG will consult further with the SHPO and tribes.

How will compliance with the PA be monitored?

- YPG will submit an Annual Report to SHPO and other consulting parties.
- Consulting parties will have an annual meeting to discuss the successes, shortcomings, and general implementation of the PA.



What happens if a cultural resource is discovered during a project?

- The YPG Cultural Resources Manager, under the authority of the Garrison Manager, can temporarily stop the work.
- YPG has developed a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP 5) that gives the specific steps to be taken.
- If YPG determines that the cultural resource is significant, YPG will notify the SHPO.
- If the site may have significance for tribes, they will be notified and consulted.
- If human remains are identified, the Garrison Manager will be contacted.
- If the remains appear to be Native American, YPG will comply with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act.
- If the remains are not Native American, YPG will notify SHPO and try to identify descendants or other interested parties.
- YPG will develop a plan for the respectful treatment and disposition of the remains.



AFFIDAVIT OF COURT REPORTER

In the matter of:

UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON YUMA PROVING GROUND
PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT RESULTING
FROM IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REAL PROPERTY MASTER PLAN
AT YUMA PROVING GROUND NORTHEAST OF YUMA, ARIZONA.

STATE OF ARIZONA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF YUMA)

I, AMY S. RICHARDSON, Certified Reporter No. 50329 for the
State of Arizona, do hereby certify:

1. That on September 24, 2013, from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.,
and then from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., I was present at the
public meeting held at the YPG Desert Breeze Travel Camp
Community Center, Building 6, Yuma, Arizona, and that no
public comment was received;
2. That on September 25, 2013, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., I
was present at the public meeting held at the Yuma Main
Library, 2951 South 21st Drive, Yuma, Arizona, and that no
public comment was received;

DATED at Yuma, Arizona this 1st day of October, 2013.

YUMA COURT REPORTERS, LLC
301 South 2nd Avenue, Suite 3
Yuma, Arizona 85364
(928) 782-7591
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AMY S. RICHARDSON
Arizona Certified
Reporter No. 50329



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

SEP 26 2013

Sergio Obregon
National Environmental Policy Act Coordinator
U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground
IMWE-YMA-PWE
301 C Street
Yuma, Arizona 85365-9498

Subject: Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement of Activities and Operations at Yuma Proving Ground, Yuma County, Arizona (CEQ # 20130240)

Dear Mr. Obregon:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has reviewed the above-referenced document pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act, Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), and our NEPA review authority under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act.

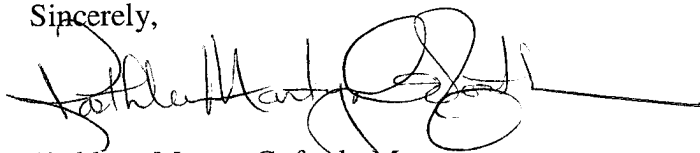
The Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement assesses the impacts from the continuation of ongoing activities at Yuma Proving Ground, and implementation of new facilities, infrastructure, and programs to meet anticipated future needs. The range of alternatives includes the No Action Alternative, which continues current operations, and the Proposed Action Alternative, which expands activities. The Proposed Action is comprised of 138 discrete short-term projects and 14 discrete long-term projects. The DPEIS indicates that the Army may choose a subset of construction, testing, and training projects for implementation, and the subset would be clearly identified in the Record of Decision. The DPEIS also indicates that for certain short-term projects, project-level analysis under NEPA is provided and subsequent NEPA analysis would not be needed. Other projects are analyzed at a programmatic-level and would require subsequent, site-specific NEPA analysis.

We have rated the DPEIS as Environmental Concerns – Insufficient Information (EC-2) (see enclosed EPA Rating Definitions) because (1) actions that the Army intends for the DPEIS to analyze at the project level, rather than the programmatic level, are not well defined, and it is therefore unclear whether an appropriate level of assessment has been completed, and (2) potential increases in testing and training activities that could result from expansions in capacity under the Proposed Action are not disclosed, making it difficult to gauge the intensity of impacts. We are also concerned with potential impacts to fire risk, hazardous materials, aquatic resources, air quality, and wildlife. Recommendations to address these issues are provided in our attached detailed comments.

We appreciate the opportunity to review this DPEIS, and are available to discuss our comments. If you have any questions, please contact me at 415-972-3521, or contact Jen Blonn, the lead reviewer for this project. Ms. Blonn can be reached at 415-972-3855 or blonn.jennifer@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

8905 0 S 932

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kathleen Martyn Goforth', written over a horizontal line.

Kathleen Martyn Goforth, Manager
Environmental Review Office (CED-2)

Enclosures: Summary of the EPA Rating System
EPA Detailed Comments

SUMMARY OF EPA RATING DEFINITIONS

This rating system was developed as a means to summarize EPA's level of concern with a proposed action. The ratings are a combination of alphabetical categories for evaluation of the environmental impacts of the proposal and numerical categories for evaluation of the adequacy of the EIS.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF THE ACTION

"LO" (Lack of Objections)

The EPA review has not identified any potential environmental impacts requiring substantive changes to the proposal. The review may have disclosed opportunities for application of mitigation measures that could be accomplished with no more than minor changes to the proposal.

"EC" (Environmental Concerns)

The EPA review has identified environmental impacts that should be avoided in order to fully protect the environment. Corrective measures may require changes to the preferred alternative or application of mitigation measures that can reduce the environmental impact. EPA would like to work with the lead agency to reduce these impacts.

"EO" (Environmental Objections)

The EPA review has identified significant environmental impacts that must be avoided in order to provide adequate protection for the environment. Corrective measures may require substantial changes to the preferred alternative or consideration of some other project alternative (including the no action alternative or a new alternative). EPA intends to work with the lead agency to reduce these impacts.

"EU" (Environmentally Unsatisfactory)

The EPA review has identified adverse environmental impacts that are of sufficient magnitude that they are unsatisfactory from the standpoint of public health or welfare or environmental quality. EPA intends to work with the lead agency to reduce these impacts. If the potentially unsatisfactory impacts are not corrected at the final EIS stage, this proposal will be recommended for referral to the CEQ.

ADEQUACY OF THE IMPACT STATEMENT

Category 1" (Adequate)

EPA believes the draft EIS adequately sets forth the environmental impact(s) of the preferred alternative and those of the alternatives reasonably available to the project or action. No further analysis or data collection is necessary, but the reviewer may suggest the addition of clarifying language or information.

"Category 2" (Insufficient Information)

The draft EIS does not contain sufficient information for EPA to fully assess environmental impacts that should be avoided in order to fully protect the environment, or the EPA reviewer has identified new reasonably available alternatives that are within the spectrum of alternatives analysed in the draft EIS, which could reduce the environmental impacts of the action. The identified additional information, data, analyses, or discussion should be included in the final EIS.

"Category 3" (Inadequate)

EPA does not believe that the draft EIS adequately assesses potentially significant environmental impacts of the action, or the EPA reviewer has identified new, reasonably available alternatives that are outside of the spectrum of alternatives analysed in the draft EIS, which should be analysed in order to reduce the potentially significant environmental impacts. EPA believes that the identified additional information, data, analyses, or discussions are of such a magnitude that they should have full public review at a draft stage. EPA does not believe that the draft EIS is adequate for the purposes of the NEPA and/or Section 309 review, and thus should be formally revised and made available for public comment in a supplemental or revised draft EIS. On the basis of the potential significant impacts involved, this proposal could be a candidate for referral to the CEQ.

*From EPA Manual 1640, "Policy and Procedures for the Review of Federal Actions Impacting the Environment."

U.S. EPA DETAILED COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND OPERATIONS AT YUMA PROVING GROUND, YUMA COUNTY, ARIZONA, SEPTEMBER 26, 2013

Scope of Analysis

The Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement states that three types of activities are included within the Proposed Action: (1) short-term, well-defined, activities at known locations that could be implemented without additional analysis under the National Environmental Policy Act, (2) short-term, well-defined activities for which locations are not known that would receive additional NEPA analysis prior to implementation, and (3) long-term, less well-defined activities that would receive additional NEPA analysis prior to implementation. From EPA's review of the DPEIS, it appears that most actions were analyzed at a programmatic level. It is unclear which actions the Army intended to analyze at the project level within the DPEIS.

Recommendations for the Final Environmental Impact Statement:

- Augment the descriptions of proposed activities in tables 2-1 to 2-3 to clearly indicate whether the Army intends for the DPEIS to include a project or programmatic level NEPA assessment of impacts.
- Ensure that the FEIS contains a robust NEPA analysis, with comprehensive, site-specific disclosure of direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts, for any activities that the Army intends to move forward without subsequent NEPA analysis. Quantitative data should be used to gauge the intensity of anticipated impacts to the extent possible.

Testing & Training Increases

The activities included in the Proposed Action appear to greatly expand the capacity for testing and training activities at Yuma Proving Ground. For example, extending runways, constructing new vehicle test courses, constructing new drop zones, expanding munitions impact areas, and establishing new gun positions, among other activities, would enable increased testing and training activities. In addition, the DPEIS frequently references increases in testing and training. It is, however, unclear exactly what this entails. The DPEIS does not indicate the degree to which specific testing and training may increase. Without this information, the intensity of potential impacts cannot be adequately understood, planned for, and mitigated. Page 3-88 indicates that, "No new employees are anticipated to relocate to the area as a result of the Proposed Action." It is unclear how the apparent proposed increase in capacity for testing and training could be fully utilized without an increase in population.

Recommendations for the FEIS:

- Augment the description of the Proposed Action in Section 2 to provide quantitative measures of the degree to which specific testing and training activities could increase. For example, disclose the anticipated increase in frequency (as a number or percentage) of flights, munitions fired, training exercises, and other activities that could be supported by the Proposed Action.
- Consider presenting a range of potential increases in testing and training activities (such as various percentages of increase from the current baseline) that could meet future needs.

- Augment Section 3 to disclose direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts from the specific increases in testing and training that would be likely to result from implementation of the Proposed Action.
- Discuss the potential for increases in testing and training activities under the Proposed Action to induce population increases on or near YPG, disclose any potential associated environmental impacts (such as increased water demand), and identify measures that could mitigate those impacts.

Fire Prevention & Management

The Proposed Action and the No Action alternatives include military testing and training activities that have ignition as a by-product. The DPEIS discloses that such activities have the potential to create wildfires. As explained in the DPEIS, a 2005 wildfire that originated on YPG burned more than 30,000 acres, including 26,000 acres in the neighboring Kofa National Wildlife Refuge. Vegetation clearing and other ground disturbance provide conditions favorable to establishment of exotic invasive species, which increase fuel loads and carry fires well, resulting in larger and more intense wildfires (page 3-41). The Proposed Action increases disturbance on up to 88,120 acres in the Cibola Region and 83,182 acres in the Kofa Region for unmanned aircraft system launch/recovery, transient gun positions, construction and utility installation, dismounted maneuver areas, vehicle test courses, and munitions impact areas (page 3-43). In addition, the DPEIS indicates that, in the event that a wildfire develops in the Kofa or Cibola Regions, fire suppression would not be undertaken in many zones due to potential danger from unexploded ordnance.

We understand that efforts are underway to reduce the fire risk posed by exotic invasive species. The DPEIS explains that, “[a] program to establish exclusion, monitoring, and eradication of all invasive plants on YPG is in the beginning stages,” and an Invasive Species Management Plan is expected to be finalized in 2013 (page 3-132). EPA is concerned, however, that the DPEIS does not commit to implement wildfire mitigation measures prior to undertaking actions that could increase wildfire risk. In addition, we are concerned that eradication of invasive species is not always a realistic goal; management to control invasive species may be more appropriate. We also note that both eradication and control programs would likely involve increases in pesticide use, and potential increases do not appear to be discussed.

Recommendations for the FEIS:

- To the extent possible, provide quantitative measures and qualitative discussion of the increased risk of fires that could result from specific increases in testing and training under the Proposed Action. For example, analyze the degree to which specific increases in ignition sources and impacted land acreages translate into potential increases in fire risk. Include measures to avoid, minimize, and mitigate risk from specific testing and training activities.
- Describe how fire prevention and management is considered in the siting of testing and training activities, and include a map with high-risk fire areas overlaid with proposed activities.
- Provide additional information on the Invasive Species Management Plan, including strategies for the proposed eradication of invasive species and any potential increases in

pesticide use. Consider whether a goal of management, rather than eradication, may be appropriate.

- Commit to implement measures to avoid, minimize, and mitigate fires *before* implementing expanded or new activities that would increase fire risk, such as increasing personnel tasked with spotting fires during training exercises.
- Commit to target areas already populated with invasive species, where consistent with project objectives, when determining the locations for projects that require vegetation to be cleared, and implement measures to prevent the spread of invasive species during land clearing activities.
- Describe any increased fire risks that YPG could experience due to changing climate conditions, and explain how such risks would be addressed.

Contamination

Several removal and remedial actions have already taken place on site, and “[d]ata indicate that other sites on YPG warrant remedial response and ongoing studies at these sites will be used to determine an appropriate strategy” (page 3-48). The Proposed Action does not discuss whether lessons learned from historic contamination have informed future plans to avoid, minimize, and mitigate soil and water contamination.

The DPEIS suggests that contaminants are not migrating off-site or into groundwater. Preventive measures are highlighted, such as the regular collection of spent depleted uranium rounds, and use of a catchment structure with an evaporative lagoon sized to accommodate a 100-year flood. Similarly, DPEIS indicates that munitions constituents of concern, including cadmium, mercury, arsenic, chromium, copper, lead, and zinc, do not migrate beyond designated impact areas. While supporting studies are cited, the DPEIS does not include sufficient information, such as a summary of studies, recent data, and future projections. It is unclear, from the DPEIS, whether current protections are sufficient for current, or future, conditions. Increases in testing and training activities would necessitate increases in use of hazardous materials, which would increase the potential for contaminants to accumulate in soils, infiltrate groundwater, flow into washes or off-site via stormwater, or be accidentally spilled.

Recommendations for FEIS:

- Provide quantitative measures and qualitative discussion of the potential increase in the release of contamination into soil and groundwater that could result from specific increases in testing and training under the Proposed Action. Include measures to monitor and mitigate impacts from specific testing and training activities. To clarify potential risks, we recommend providing a table with (1) actions that generate contaminants, (2) specific contaminants of concern, (3) mitigation measures, and (4) monitoring actions.
- Provide maps that depict areas of known contamination as well as locations of past and planned cleanups in order to better disclose existing conditions that would be impacted and likely cumulative impacts.
- Augment the discussion of cleanups on page 3-48 to describe how lessons learned from historic contamination have informed future plans to avoid, minimize, and mitigate soil and water contamination.
- Clearly describe, through discussion and maps, plans and locations for sampling to help ensure that contaminants do not migrate into the groundwater or off-site.

- Ensure that likely future changes in precipitation under climate change scenarios are considered in an evaluation of whether a 100-year flood sized evaporative lagoon would continue to be appropriate for the depleted uranium catchment structure.

Aquatic Resources

Stormwater

YPG contains numerous desert washes onsite that remain dry most of the year, and can experience flash flooding during heavy rains. Surface drainage from the western portion of the site flows into the Colorado River, and drainage from the central and eastern regions flows into the Gila River (page 3-149). Both rivers are listed on the Arizona 2006/2008 List of Impaired Waters (3-150).

The DEIS indicates that water arriving in both rivers during flood events is “typically good quality,” (3-150) and that the Proposed Action would not result in further degradation (3-157). Documentation to support these conclusions is not provided. Further, activities under the Proposed Action would disturb thousands of acres of desert habitat and add hundreds of acres of impervious surfaces, which could increase runoff. Expanded use of drop zones, potential increases in frequency of fires, expanded vehicle testing activities, and increased munitions impacts, among other new and expanded activities, could decrease the quality of stormwater.

Recommendations for the FEIS:

- Site transient gun positions, and other facilities and activities that would disturb vegetation, away from washes.
- Clearly define plans to regularly monitor stormwater quality.
- Include the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan as an appendix to the FEIS since measures contained within it will largely influence the intensity of impacts.

Groundwater Demand

Page 3-35 states that the proposed water treatment plant would increase demand for groundwater, but any subsidence associated with the increased withdrawal would be minor to moderate and no surface fissures would result. Water demand would also increase from development of a new well. Increased demand for groundwater is not estimated, and it is, therefore, unclear how conclusions regarding the intensity of impacts were reached.

Recommendations for the FEIS:

- Provide quantitative measures of projected increases in demand for groundwater, and explain how results were calculated.
- Commit to implement water conservation measures in buildings and operations. Guidance on water efficient products for use in buildings is available at <http://www.epa.gov/watersense/>, and recycled water can be used for vehicle washing and other maintenance activities.
- Clearly define plans to regularly monitor groundwater. Include a map depicting sampling wells overlaid with potential contaminant sources.

Clean Water Act Section 404

The DEIS states that a CWA 404 permit would be required for proposed improvements to Aberdeen Road in the Castle Dome Wash between U.S. Highway 95 and the Kofa Cantonment (page 3-158). The acreage of potential fill into Waters of the U.S. is not provided, nor is information on compliance with the CWA Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines.

Recommendations for the FEIS:

- Disclose whether any projects within the Proposed Action alternative, aside from the Aberdeen Road improvements, would require a CWA 404 permit.
- Clarify whether the Army intends to complete subsequent NEPA analysis for projects within the Proposed Action that would require a CWA 404 permit.
- If this DPEIS is intended to provide project-level analysis of any action that would require a CWA 404 permit, then the FEIS should include a detailed evaluation of the project alternatives in order to demonstrate the project's compliance with the 404(b)(1) Guidelines. The alternatives analysis should demonstrate that the proposed project is avoiding and minimizing damage to waters to the maximum extent practicable.

Air Quality

The southwest corner of the Laguna Region of the YPG is a nonattainment area (moderate) for the 24-hour National Ambient Air Quality Standard for PM10. The project area is in attainment for all other criteria pollutants. Appendix D includes a General Conformity Record of Non-Applicability, which addresses specific, and very limited, construction activities. Operational emissions from use of new facilities, including indirect emissions from traffic, testing, and training activities, do not appear to be included.

Page 3-14 explains that, "aircraft operations may increase under the Proposed Action and there would likely be a trend to use larger [unmanned aircraft systems]. Either of these could result in an increase in aircraft emissions during testing and training." Similarly, expanded and new vehicle test courses would likely lead to increased vehicle emissions, and expanded and new drop zone and munitions impact areas would likely further lead to increased emissions. In order to understand the intensity of increased air emissions, information is needed on the degree to which operational activities could increase at YPG.

Recommendations for the FEIS:

- Ensure that all applicable projects, and their associated direct and indirect impacts, are included in the general conformity review provided in Appendix D.
- Provide quantitative measures and qualitative descriptions of the air emissions that could result from specific increases in testing and training under the Proposed Action. Identify measures to avoid, minimize, and mitigate air emissions impacts from specific testing and training activities.
- Commit to minimize construction air emissions through cleaner diesel technologies, anti-idling policies, and other best practices. See EPA's cleaner diesel website for information on specific best practices (<http://www.epa.gov/diesel/>), and specify, in the FEIS, which strategies would be implemented.

- Ensure that activities that create air emissions are scheduled with consideration of temperature inversions that occur on YPG due to topography (as described in Appendix C, Section E-1, Question 4).

Valley Fever

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's website explains that, "valley fever is caused by *Coccidioides*, a fungus that lives in the soil in the southwestern United States...inhaling the airborne fungal spores can cause an infection." Exposure can cause flu-like symptoms, or, in a very small proportion of people, the infection can spread from the lungs to the rest of the body and cause more severe conditions, even death. Based on the CDC's website, it appears that YPG is in a region where valley fever is mildly endemic. For more information, please see: <http://www.cdc.gov/features/valleyfever/>. Ground disturbing activities can release spores into the air, creating an exposure risk via inhalation. The DPEIS does not discuss potential impacts related to valley fever.

Recommendations for the FEIS:

- Discuss the potential valley fever risk under the No Action and Proposed Action alternatives. If appropriate, include measures to avoid, minimize, and mitigate impacts, including outreach to ensure YPG personnel are aware of risks, symptoms, and treatments.

Wildlife

The Sonoran desert tortoise is a candidate for listing under the Endangered Species Act, and inhabits the YPG. In addition, Sonoran pronghorn is endangered under the ESA, and an experimental population established through captive breeding was released into the neighboring Kofa National Wildlife Refuge in 2013 and is expected to inhabit YPG (page 3-110). The DPEIS explains that direct impacts to threatened and endangered species would result from displacement or incidental mortality, and indirect impacts would result from disturbance that leads to nest/den abandonment, loss of habitat, or disruption of migratory pathways (page 3-114). Impacts would be avoided, minimized, and mitigated through site selection of military activities, relocation of species, and procedures established in the Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan. The role of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Arizona Game and Fish Department in addressing impacts to species is not discussed. Their expertise could help to minimize impacts.

Recommendations for the FEIS:

- Coordinate with FWS to ensure compliance with the Endangered Species Act, and with FWS and AGFD on best practices to minimize impacts to wildlife. Document this coordination in the FEIS.
- Include maps that depict key wildlife habitats and corridors on YPG in order to disclose potential impacts and inform decisions on siting facilities and activities.
- Include the Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan as an appendix to the FEIS since measures contained within it will largely influence the intensity of impacts.
- If this DPEIS is intended to provide project-level analysis of any action that would impact wildlife, then the FEIS should include more detailed information on the location of impacts and the number of individuals that would likely be taken or disturbed.

Renewable Energy

EPA is pleased to see that the Army is considering development of a commercial scale solar renewable energy project on YPG, which is currently going through a separate NEPA process. In order to protect pristine lands and minimize environmental impacts, EPA's Re-Powering America initiative encourages renewable energy development on current and formerly contaminated lands.

Recommendations for the FEIS:

- Consider siting the proposed solar energy project on a current or formerly contaminated site within YPG, which may have limited other uses due to past activities. Resources are available on EPA's Re-Powering America website at: <http://www.epa.gov/oswercpa/>.

Scope of Analysis

***Comment 1:* Augment descriptions of proposed activities in table 2-1 and 2-3 to clearly indicate whether the Army intends for the DPEIS to include a project or programmatic level NEPA assessment of impacts.**

Response: Tables 2-1 through 2-3 have been revised as Tables 2-1 through 2-6, which provide separate listing of programmatic projects and detailed analysis of projects by region.

***Comment 2:* Ensure that FEIS contains a robust NEPA analysis with comprehensive site specific disclosure of direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts, for any activities that the Army intends to move forward without subsequent NEPA analysis. Quantitative data should be used to gauge the intensity of anticipated impacts to the extent possible.**

Response: The analysis in the body of the FPEIS focuses on the programmatic portion of the Proposed Action. An appendix (Appendix C) has been added to the FPEIS that provides site-specific analysis of direct and indirect impacts for projects considered in detail. No additional detail regarding cumulative impacts was provided, beyond that already included in the DPEIS, as this discussion was comprehensive.

Testing and Training Increases

***Comment 3:* Augment the description on the Proposed Action in section 2 to provide quantitative measures of the degree to which specific testing and training activities could increase. For example disclose the anticipated increase in frequency (as a number or a percentage) of flights, munitions fired, training exercises, and other activities that could be supported by the Proposed Action.**

Response: Description has been revised to reflect that the proposed action would increase the capability for conducting testing and training by increasing the number/size of ranges and/or facilities that can be used, but that actual use would be within historical levels (see comment 4).

***Comment 4:* Consider presenting a range of potential increases in testing and training activities (such as various percentages of increases from the current baseline) that could meet future needs.**

Response: Historical data from the recent peak usage period (simultaneous conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan) and minimal use years for are provided to bracket the maximum and baseline levels of activity. Text was added to FPEIS identifying these historical maxima and minima for vehicles, munitions, troops, and aircraft (manned and unmanned). Because the historical maxima exceeded ability of current ranges/facilities, the proposed action would expand ranges/facilities

to accommodate the historical maxima. The impacts analysis has been clarified to indicate that it is based on future use being within identified historical limits.

Comment 5: Augment section 3 to disclose direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts from the specific increases in testing and training that would result from the implementation of the Proposed Action.

Response: Section 3 of the FPEIS focuses on the programmatic analysis of direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts. A new appendix (Appendix C) has been added that provides the specific analysis of direct and indirect impacts for projects considered in detail. No change to the cumulative impacts discussion beyond that provided for the programmatic analysis has been made.

Comment 6: Discuss the potential for increases in testing and training activities under the Proposed Action to induce population increases on or near YPG, disclose any potential associated environmental impacts (such as increased water demand), and to identify measures that could mitigate those impacts.

Response: FPEIS sections 3.5.4.2 and 3.20.2.2 address water demand. As noted in the DPEIS, there would be no increase in personnel assigned to YPG, so no permanent increase in water demand would occur. Because no permanent jobs would be created, no induced growth would be expected. Section 3.20.2.2 identifies that increases in water demand would be temporary to support construction or short-term training and would not require mitigation beyond water conservation measures already implemented on YPG.

Fire Prevention and Management

Comment 7: To the extent possible, provide quantitative measures and qualitative discussions of the increased risk of fires that could result from specific increases in testing and training under the Proposed Action. For example analyze the degree to which specific increases in ignition sources and impacted land acreages translate into potential increases in fire risk. Include measures to avoid, minimize, and mitigate risk from specific testing and training activities.

Response: The potential for wildfire on YPG is largely driven by precipitation and is independent of military activities on YPG. In years of above normal rainfall, the density and cover of annual plants (both native and exotic) increases, resulting in increased fuel load and greater potential for wildfire. YPG has developed a Geographic Information System Fire Risk Model to predict wildfire risk and behavior based on fuel loads and short-term climatic conditions. Text on this model and how it is used were added to the FPEIS discussion of wildfire. See also response to comment 8.

Comment 8: Describe how fire prevention and management is considered in the siting of testing and training activities, and include a map of high risk fire areas overlaid with proposed activities.

Response: Following the King Valley wildfire in 2005, YPG developed a Memorandum of Understanding with BLM and USFWS to specify how fires would be reported and combated on federal lands in the area. The MOU established reporting protocols, chains of command, and safety measures related to fighting wildfires across federal lands boundaries. No changes in the procedures specified in the MOU are proposed. Text discussing the MOU has been added to the FPEIS.

Wildfire risk varies from year to year throughout YPG, depending on localized rainfall conditions. In addition, wildfire risk within a given year varies among different areas on YPG, due to the size of the installation, the annual widespread scatter among rainfall events across this large area, and variation in such localized rainfall from year to year. However, an installation-wide map of fire risk was not added because it would be quickly out of date and would change yearly based on rainfall conditions. Because the proposed activities would be implemented over a period of years, a map of current conditions would have little relevance to conditions at the time of project implementation. Instead text was added explaining the YPG fire model and how it is used to manage fire risk on the installation. A figure was created comparing relative fire risk of a representative area on YPG based on model output for two historical years.

Comment 9: Provide any additional information on Invasive Species Management Plan, including strategies of the proposed eradication of invasive species and any potential increases in pesticide use. Consider a goal of management rather than eradication, may be appropriate.

Response: The Invasive Species Management Plan is not a component of the proposed action, but is being developed separately by YPG. The goal on YPG is control and eradication with eradication being preferred for small areas of invasive species that are not well-established and control of the more well-established species. However, until the plan is finalized, it is not appropriate to speculate on specifics it may contain. No additional information added to the FPEIS. Text was added to the vegetation discussion (Section 3.18.2) discussing control measures in the INRMP, especially for buffelgrass.

Comment 10: Commit to implement measures to avoid, minimize, and mitigate fires before implementing or expanded or new activities that would increase fire risk, such as increasing personnel tasked with spotting fires during training exercises.

Response: As noted previously in responses 7 and 8, fire risk is largely independent of activities undertaken on YPG and is dependent on fuel load, which is a function of precipitation and growth of annual plant species. Following the King Valley wildfire in 2005, YPG developed a Memorandum of Understanding with BLM and USFWS to specify how fires would be reported and combated on federal lands in the area. The MOU established reporting protocols, chains of command, and safety measures related to fighting wildfires across federal lands boundaries. No

changes in the procedures specified in the MOU are proposed. Text discussing the MOU has been added to the FPEIS in Sections 3.7.1 and 3.7.2.4 and in Appendix G.

***Comment 11:* Commit to target areas already populated with invasive species, where consistent with project objectives, when determining the locations for projects that require vegetation to be cleared and implement measures to prevent the spread of invasive species during land clearing activities.**

Response: The primary factor that determines where vegetation clearing activities would be sited is mission needs (such as an impact area x kilometers from a firing point, a sensor test range x kilometers from nearest electromagnetic interference, etc.). Selection of and subsequent clearing of land populated with invasive species is done when these areas are consistent with project objectives.

Section 3.18.2.4 (Vegetation) discusses plans to minimize impacts to vegetation, including spread of invasive exotic species, in addition to the YPG ITAM program.

Contamination

***Comment 12:* While supporting studies on contamination at YPG are cited, the DPEIS does not include data such as summary of studies, recent data, and future projections. It is unclear, from the DPEIS, whether current projections are sufficient for current, or future, conditions.**

Response: Areas that are being addressed through the Installation Restoration Program would not be impacted by the proposed activities. A discussion of the regular contaminant monitoring of ranges conducted by the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventative Medicine has been added to Section 3.9.1.4. No evidence of contamination movement to groundwater from surface activities on YPG has been discovered. Monitoring is conducted every 5 years moving forward, with the most recent sampling (the third sampling event) completed in 2012. The reports are provided in the Administrative Record.

All range areas were evaluated in the initial evaluation and subsequent evaluations have focused on active ranges. The new or expanded munitions impact areas will be added to the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventative Medicine monitoring evaluations. Because there would be no changes to the types of munitions fired, it is expected that this monitoring will continue on the regular intervals.

***Comment 13:* Provide measures and qualitative discussion of potential increase in the release of contamination to soil and groundwater that could result from specific increases in testing and training activities under the Proposed Action. Include measures to monitor and mitigate impacts from specific testing and training activities. To clarify potential risk,**

we recommend providing a table with actions that (1) generate contaminants, (2) specific contaminant of concern, (3) mitigation measures and, (4) monitoring actions.

Response: A discussion of the findings of the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventative Medicine studies conducted on YPG ranges (every 5 years, most recently completed in 2012) has been added to the FPEIS. Based on these findings, where no evidence of contamination movement to groundwater from surface activities on YPG has been discovered, no risk of future contamination is expected. No table was added because the COCs are munitions constituents and there is no contamination at present from these COCs. Monitoring, as discussed in Section 3.9.1.4 and Appendix G, will continue every five years and should evidence be detected, appropriate mitigation measures would be developed and implemented at that time.

***Comment 14:* Provide maps that depict areas of known contamination as well as past and planned cleanups in order to better disclose existing conditions that would likely be impacted and likely cumulative impacts.**

Response: Figure 3-3 has been added to depict IRP sites on YPG. The IRP sites are the known areas of contamination. Only one proposed project would potentially cross an IRP site and that project (an electrical transmission line extension) is not sufficiently designed for detailed analysis in the FPEIS. The project will be subjected to further NEPA analysis prior to implementation that will address potential impacts to the IRP site and the associated contamination if the final design crosses the IRP site. No changes to areas of contamination would result from the proposed activities and no cumulative impacts would result with regard to existing areas of contamination.

***Comment 15:* Augment the discussion of cleanups on page 3-48 to describe how lessons learned from historic contamination have informed future plans to avoid, minimize, and mitigate soil and water contamination.**

Response: Historical contamination has resulted from isolated events (leaking storage tanks, landfills, etc.) and has not resulted from testing and training activities. Knowledge gained from responses to historical contamination has been applied to develop Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), a Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasures Plan (SPCCP) and an Installation Spill Contingency Plan (ISCP). These items were included in the DPEIS and implementation of these SOPs as well as the SPCCP and ISCP is required for activities proposed in the FPEIS. The required implementation of these measures should limit the risk of future accidental releases and subsequent contamination. The U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventative Medicine conducts studies on YPG ranges every 5 years, most recently completed in 2012, to detect possible contamination and migration of potential contaminants from munitions constituents. These studies will be continued under the Preferred Alternative in the FPEIS.

***Comment 16:* Clearly describe, through discussions and maps, plans and locations for sampling to help ensure that contaminants do not migrate into the groundwater or off-site.**

Response: A new Figure 3-3 has been added that depicts sampling locations for monitoring wells. A discussion of the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventative Medicine sampling (conducted every 5 years) to test for potential range contamination has been added to the FPEIS.

Comment 17: Ensure that likely future changes in precipitation under climate change are considered in an evaluation of whether or not a 100-year flood sized evaporative lagoon would continue to be appropriate for the depleted uranium catchment structure.

Response: A discussion of anticipated climate change impacts in southern Arizona has been added to the discussion of the No Action Alternative regarding the DU evaporative lagoon (Section 3.7.2.2). As no change in use of the DU impact area would occur under the proposed action, no change to the discussion of impacts under the proposed action was made.

Aquatic Resources

Stormwater:

Comment 18: Site transient gun positions, and other facilities and activities that would disturb vegetation away from washes.

Response: The locations of TGPs are determined by mission needs – to provide adequate support to meet testing and training needs at specific locations. As the materiel and equipment used at transient gun positions would be subject to damage or loss in the event of a flash flood, these locations avoid washes to the extent practicable, but it is not always possible to avoid these areas.

Comment 19: Clearly define plans to monitor stormwater quality.

Response: Construction stormwater monitoring would be specified in the project-specific Construction Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans that would be developed and implemented. Specifics of such monitoring are not known at this time.

Comment 20: Include the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan as an appendix to the FEIS since measures contained within in it will largely influence the intensity of impacts.

Response 20: SWPPP will be retained as a reference located in the Administrative Record. The measures identified from the SWPPP apply equally to the no action alternative and the proposed action and already are being implemented on YPG. Due to the size of the document and that it contains substantial information unrelated to the proposed action, the SWPPP will be retained as a reference and included in the Administrative Record but will not be added as an appendix.

Groundwater

Comment 21: Provide quantitative measures for increases in demand for groundwater, and explain how results were calculated

Response 21: Groundwater demand is discussed in section 3.5 of the FPEIS and further discussed in section 3.20.2.2. As noted in the DPEIS, there would be no increase in personnel assigned to YPG, so no permanent increase in water demand, including water derived from groundwater, would occur. Any increases in water demand would be temporary to support construction or short-term training and would not require mitigation beyond water conservation measures already implemented on YPG.

***Comment 22:* Commit to implement water conservation measures in buildings and operations. Guidance for water efficient products for use in buildings is available at www.epa.gov/watersense/, and recycled water can be used for vehicle washing and other maintenance activities.**

Response 22: YPG has a commitment as an installation to conserve water. Water conservation commitments relevant to the proposed action are addressed in Section 3.5.1.2 (Utilities – Water).

***Comment 23:* Clearly define all plans to regularly monitor groundwater. Include a map depicting sampling wells overlaid with potential contaminant sources.**

Response 23: Ground water sampling addressed in Section 3.9 (Hazardous Materials/Hazardous Waste). A map of IRP sites and monitoring wells has been added as Figure 3-3.

Clean Water Act Section 404

***Comment 24:* Disclose any projects that occur within the Proposed Action alternative, aside from the Aberdeen road improvements, would require a CWA 404 permit.**

Response 24: As was stated in the DPEIS section 3.20.2.3, only the Aberdeen Road flood improvements would require a CWA 404 permit. No changes to the FPEIS were made in response to this comment.

***Comment 25:* Clarify whether the Army intends to complete subsequent NEPA analysis for projects within Proposed Action that would require a CWA 404 permit.**

Response 25: As was stated in the DPEIS Section 3.20.2.3, only the Aberdeen Road flood improvements would require a CWA 404 permit. CWA permitting would be completed for this activity, but additional NEPA analysis by YPG is not anticipated.

***Comment 26:* If DPEIS is intended to provide project-level analysis of any action that would require a CWA Section 404 permit, then the FEIS should include a detailed evaluation of the project alternatives in order to demonstrate the project's compliance with**

the 404(b)(1) guidelines. The alternatives analysis should demonstrate the proposed project is avoiding and minimizing damage to waters to maximum extent possible.

Response 26: Only one proposed activity would require a CWA Section 404 permit (flood improvements on Aberdeen Road leading into Kofa cantonment). Because this project has not been designed, it is not possible at this time to provide this detailed analysis for CWA Section 404(b)(1). However, that is not necessary for completing the NEPA analysis on the action. As the project is to improve an existing low water crossing that floods excessively and creates a safety hazard, the project is water-dependant and impacts are unavoidable. The water is a large wash extending southward from the Kofa Mountains and must be crossed to access the Kofa cantonment. Therefore, avoiding the water is not an option. Alternatives would be limited to different approaches to improve the crossing, which will not be developed until the engineering/design phase is initiated. Alternatives will consider ways to minimize impacts. The FPEIS does specify that the CWA permit must be obtained in advance of the work and that the work must comply with the conditions of the permit. The FPEIS makes the logical NEPA conclusion that, based on compliance with the CWA permit, the impacts to the water would be minor and not significant. No changes were made to the FPEIS based on this comment.

Air Quality

***Comment 27:* Ensure that all applicable projects and their associated direct and indirect impacts are included in the general conformity review provided in Appendix E.**

Response 27: All applicable projects were included in the conformity review in the DPEIS. No additional projects have been added to the conformity review. Impacts are discussed in the FPEIS in section 3.2.2.2.

***Comment 28:* Provide Quantitative measures and qualitative descriptions of the air emissions that could result from specific increases in testing and training under the Proposed Action. Identify measures to avoid, minimize, and mitigate air emissions impacts from specific testing and training activities.**

Response 28: Air emission calculations are provided in Appendix D. These were required for the portion of YPG that is in non-attainment. These results were then extrapolated to address potential air quality impacts from activities outside the non-attainment area.

***Comment 29:* Commit to minimize construction emissions through cleaner diesel technologies, anti-idling policies and other best practices. See EPA cleaner diesel website for information on specific best practices (<http://www.epa.gov/diesel/>) and specify, in the FEIS, which strategies would be implemented.**

Response 29: Air quality issues on YPG and in the surrounding area, including the designation of a portion of the region as a non-attainment area for PM10, are primarily the result of wind-

blown dust, not fine particulates generated as combustion byproducts. Tilled farmland is the primary contributor to dust, but natural wind events and military activities on YPG also contribute. Appropriate mitigation for dust suppression practices are discussed in 3.2.2.3 and 3.2.2.4.

Comment 30: Ensure that activities that create air emissions are scheduled with consideration with temperature inversions that occur on YPG due to topography (as described in Appendix C, Section E-1, Question 4).

Response 30: Air inversions are natural occurrences and do not result because of military activities on YPG. Inversion layers can be daily occurrences. They tend to develop overnight as a result of cool air settling between mountainous areas and then dissipate with the warming of the sun. Text was added to the air quality section (Section 3.2.2.2) discussing inversion layers and how operations are scheduled to minimize activities during inversion conditions.

Valley Fever

Comment 31: Discuss potential valley fever risk under No Action and Proposed Action Alternatives. If appropriate, include measures to avoid, minimize, and mitigate impact, including outreach to ensure YPG personnel are always aware of risks, symptoms and treatments.

Response 31: Valley fever has been added to FPEIS in sections 3.13.2.2 and 3.13.2.3

Wildlife

Comment 32: Coordinate with USFWS to ensure compliance with the Endangered Species Act, and with FWS and AGFD on best practices to minimize impacts to wildlife. Document this coordinated in the FEIS.

Response 32: Coordination has been maintained with USFWS and AGFD throughout the EIS process from initial scoping to current. Documentation of the coordination is provided in Appendix A, as indicated in the FPEIS.

Comment 33: Include maps that depict key wildlife habitats and corridors on YPG in order to disclose potential impacts and inform decisions on siting facilities and activities.

Response 33: Figures 3-5 through 3-11 were added to illustrate habitat for selected species. Corridors are direct paths between identified habitats across the desert.

Comment 34: Include the Integrated Natural Resources Plan as an appendix to the FEIS since measures contained within it will largely influence the intensity of impacts.

Response 34: The measures identified from the INRMP apply equally to the no action alternative and the proposed action and already are being implemented on YPG. Due to the size of the document and that it contains substantial information unrelated to the proposed action, the INRMP will be retained as a reference and included in the Administrative Record but will not be added as an appendix.

***Comment 35:* If this DPEIS project is intended to provide project level analysis of any action that would impact wildlife, then the FEIS should include more detailed information of the location impacts and the number of individuals that would likely be taken or disturbed.**

Response 35: Because wildlife on YPG are widely scattered, it is not possible to accurately predict specific impacts such as number of animals disturbed. Project level analysis is described in Appendix C under “Activities Considered in Detailed” Projected impacts are discussed. The analysis does identify measures to reduce the potential for wildlife disturbance and specifies measures to avoid sensitive life history areas, such as lambing areas for bighorn sheep.

Renewable Energy

***Comment 36:* Consider siting the proposed solar energy project on a current or formerly contaminated site on YPG, which may have limited other uses due to past activities.**

Response 36: This comment does not apply to the proposed action evaluated in this FPEIS. The solar energy project is not a component of the proposed action and the analysis of the proposed action will not influence siting criteria for such a project, beyond potential incompatible land use due to military activities implemented as a result of this action.



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October 2, 2013

Sergio Obregon
NEPA Coordinator
U.S. Army Garrison YPG
IMWE-YMA-PWE, 301 C Street
Yuma, AZ 85365-9498

Re: Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for Activities and Operations at Yuma Proving Ground, Arizona

Dear Mr. Obregon:

The Arizona Game and Fish Department (Department) has reviewed the August 2013 United States Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (DPEIS) for Activities and Operations at Yuma Proving Ground. The Department appreciates the ongoing partnership with the Department of the Army (Army) in managing the ecological health of natural resources found on the U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground (YPG). Given the project description and our understanding of planned activities, we are providing the following comments for your consideration.

Project Description

The DPEIS analyzes construction, testing, and training activities and presents the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects of the Proposed Action to continue ongoing activities and to implement new facilities, infrastructure, and programs to meet anticipated future needs and maintain YPG as a multi-purpose installation. The proposed action would also support cross-functional training allowed by the Department of Defense. The DPEIS will support development of a future Real Property Master Plan (RPMP) at YPG by providing a basis for the Visioning Plan and by providing a programmatic framework for the Capital Investment Strategy and the Area Development Plans. The analysis in the EIS will also support the alternatives analysis for the RPMP.

General Comments

As we understand from the DPEIS, the Army is planning new construction and associated demolition to meet future training and testing activities occurring on YPG. It is anticipated that YPG an area rich in biodiversity will continue to lose habitat as it expands its testing and training activities. The Department, by and through the Arizona Game and Fish Commission has jurisdictional authority (*A.R.S. 17*) for management of the states wildlife resources and seeks adequate compensation for habitat losses resulting from activities on YPG. As mentioned in the YPG Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan (2012), 185 mesquite bosques were surveyed on YPG ranging in size from 0.5 to 40 acres. Mesquite bosques provide excellent habitat for mammals are only second to cottonwood-willow forests for supporting high densities of breeding birds in the southwest (Stromberg 1993). A significant number

Mr. Obregon

10/2/13

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of bosques identified on YPG developed as a result of soil disturbance and not through natural means. Department personnel believe this can be replicated and would provide a cheap and effective opportunity to compensate for the loss of habitat from military activities. We would like to discuss this further with YPG personnel.

It is anticipated that increased testing and training may conflict with recreational hunting. The Department requests advanced notification and coordination if planned activities are expected to impact recreational hunting.

The Department would like to be included as a partner agency on environmental compliance and other natural resource related issues concerning projects identified within the DPEIS. Due to the nature of activities on YPG we believe early coordination will help provide adequate review while helping resolve and avoid conflicts and reduce impacts to wildlife.

Specific Comments

3.16.1.2: Western Yellow Bat – Change the second to last sentence to the following.

A western yellow bat was tentatively identified during mist net surveys in Vinegaroon Wash (YPG, 2012b), *and one western yellow bat was captured by AGFD at Lake Alex*. Suitable roosting habitat for this species is not present on YPG, but the species may forage on YPG or occur as a transient.

3.18.1: Existing Conditions – Change the second sentence in the eighth paragraph to the following.

The main non-native plants of concern are considered exotic invasive plants and include buffelgrass, Athel tamarisk (*Tamarix aphylla*), salt cedar (*Tamarix* spp. and hybrids), ~~Mediterranean~~ and Arabian grass (*Schismus arabicus*), Mediterranean grass, Sahara mustard, and puncturevine (*Tribulus terrestris*).

Table G-1: Define HS, SR, and WSC.

Mr. Obregon

10/2/13

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Thank you for the opportunity to review and provide comments on this Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement. If you have any questions, please contact me at 928-341-4069 or tbommarito@azgfd.gov.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Tab Bommarito in black ink.

Tab Bommarito
Habitat Specialist
Region IV, Yuma

cc: Pat Barber, Regional Supervisor, Region IV
Joyce Francis, Chief, Habitat Branch
Bill Knowles, Habitat Program Manager, Region IV
Laura Canaca, PEP Supervisor, Habitat Branch

AGFD # M13-08164748

Stromberg, J.C., S.D. Wilkins, and J.A. Tress. 1993 Vegetation-hydrology models: Implications for management of *Prosopis velutina* (Velvet Mesquite) riparian ecosystems. Ecological Applications. 3:307-314

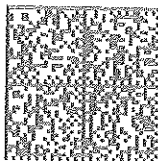
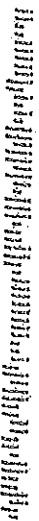
U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground Yuma, Arizona (YPG). 2012b. Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan and Environmental Assessment. June 2012.



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From: Fernandez, Erin [mailto:erin_fernandez@fws.gov]

Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2013 3:49 PM

To: Steward, Daniel M CIV (US)

Subject: concurrence with March 4, 2013 species list

Hi Daniel,

I apologize if I didn't send my response previously to your request for concurrence on your March 4, 2013 species list. Regarding the list, I offer a couple of minor suggestions as follows:

- 1) "Antilocapra" should be spelled Antilocapra.
- 2) It should be clarified that Sonoran pronghorn occurring on YPG are part of the 10(j) population (this is stated on page 2 of the letter, but it should be clarified in the table; SPH are currently listed as endangered in the table).
- 3) As you are aware, SPH currently occur on YPG (page 2 states that they may move onto YPG; but that is because the letter was written before SPH were documented on YPG).
- 4) On page 2, second paragraph, just to clarify, YPG is not required to consult or conference with us on the 10(j) population of SPH on YPG. If YPG actions affect SPH on Kofa NWR (like overflights or the like), YPG would be required to consult with us as SPH are treated as threatened on Kofa.

Other than these minor points, I concur with your species list.

Thank you and please let me know if you have any questions or need further information from us.

Erin

Erin Fernandez

Fish and Wildlife Biologist/Mexico Program Coordinator U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Arizona

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Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Caveats: NONE

Responses to comments in email from Erin Fernandez/USFWS dated 10/23/2013

Comment 1: "Antilocapra" should be spelled Antilocapra.

Response 1: Genus name for Sonoran pronghorn was corrected throughout document.

Comment 2: It should be clarified that Sonoran pronghorn occurring on YPG are part of the 10(j) population (this is stated on page 2 of the letter, but it should be clarified in the table; SPH are currently listed as endangered in the table).

Response 2: Text was clarified as noted in comment at section 3.16.1.1.

Comment 3: As you are aware, SPH currently occur on YPG (page 2 states that they may move onto YPG; but that is because the letter was written before SPH were documented on YPG).

Response 3: Document revised to indicate Sonoran pronghorn are now known to occur on YPG at section 3.16.1.1.

Comment 4: On page 2, second paragraph, just to clarify, YPG is not required to consult or conference with us on the 10(j) population of SPH on YPG. If YPG actions affect SPH on Kofa NWR (like overflights or the like), YPG would be required to consult with us as SPH are treated as threatened on Kofa.

Response 4: Text was revised to accurately reflect consultation with USFWS required for actions that would affect Sonoran pronghorn on Kofa NWR. Under section 10(j)(2)(C)(i) of the Endangered Species Act, the population is to be treated as a species proposed to be listed when it leaves the NWR. For this reason, the Army is conferring about the Sonoran pronghorn on YPG.

Responses to comments in letter from Kofa NWR/USFWS

General Comment: The DEIS lists 31 "short-term" projects proposed for the YPG Kofa Region. Our comments and concerns are specifically directed at the activities proposed for this area. We do not address the proposed activities for the YPG Laguna or the Cibola Regions.

General Comment Response: The responses below focus on the Kofa Region. Please note the following general item that will apply to multiple comment responses:

The PEIS has been modified to reflect a preferred alternative that would reduce the size of the proposed munitions impact area adjacent to the Kofa NWR such that the munitions impact area would be limited by a 1-km setback from the edge of the southern boundary of the NWR and a 500-m setback from the eastern boundary of the NWR.

Comment 1: Land Use

Comment 1a: The proposed clearing of land for the construction of new facilities and other associated military activities would total over 500 acres and result in the elimination of virtually all wildlife and wildlife habitat values associated with said land.

Response 1a: Land converted to buildings and infrastructure would be lost as habitat for wildlife and vegetation. These losses are documented under the discussions of these resources. As the amount of land that would be lost from construction of buildings and infrastructure is much less than one-tenth of one percent of the land area of YPG and because much of this land is in proximity to developed or heavily used areas, this loss of habitat would not be significant.

Comment 1b: The DEIS states that the proposed projects do not change the land use designation for the YPG Kofa Region (range/open land). This statement is misleading. While the land use designation may not change, the proposed activities do change the use of the land, and the impacts-both on the YPG Kofa Region and the Refuge-would be *significant and long term*. The proposed expansion of the munitions firing range (29,757 acres) would be especially significant, bringing the munitions impact area up to the very border of the Refuge. Expanded munitions testing would destroy native habitat over the long-term and cause increased mortality of native wildlife, both in the short- and long-term.

Response 1b: YPG disagrees that the statement is misleading. No land use changes would occur – the range/open land category on YPG is designated for support of the military mission and that would not change and there would not be significant and long term impacts to land use. That there would be no impacts to land use does not imply that there would be no impacts to other resources. The impacts from the changes in activities on other resources noted in the comment, which are not land use changes, are documented in the PEIS under appropriate areas and are not addressed under land use.

Comment 1c: Habitat would be destroyed through: (1) blasting the surface of the ground; (2) destroying native vegetation; (3) contributing to the establishment of invasive noxious weeds in the disturbed soils; and (4) by introducing pollutants into the landscape from exploded munitions, vehicle emissions and petroleum products from military vehicles. Increased mortality to native wildlife would result

from both direct and indirect causes, including (1) mortality by live fire; (2) decreased survival from nutritional stress and less time spent foraging; and (3) depressed reproductive fitness-also a result of being on a lowered nutritional plane; (4) potential higher predation levels, (5) autoimmune compromise (higher incidence of disease).

Response 1c: The habitat that would be lost or altered as a result of the proposed action is documented in the PEIS along with the potential impacts of the changes to habitat on other resources.

Comment 1d: **Instances of over-fire and munitions landing/detonating on the Refuge have been documented in the past and will likely increase if the munitions testing area is expanded as proposed. In addition, range fires have been started on the Refuge by munitions testing, as documented in comments by the previous Kofa NWR Manager in the YPG Excalibur Limited User Test Program Environmental Assessment. Munitions testing caused a range fire-the King Valley Wildland Fire-that burned 29,000 acres on the Refuge and 3000 acres on YPG in 2005. Fires in desert environments are especially damaging because of the fragile nature of desert vegetation. It can take decades for slow-growing, non-fire adapted plants to reestablish in this arid landscape.**

Response 1d: Firing over the Kofa NWR should not increase in the future. One program that historically fired over the refuge has been relocated and no longer fires over the refuge. The only portion of Kofa NWR that currently experiences over-firing is the extreme southern portion west of King Valley, which may experience over-firing from four existing firing positions. There would be no changes to firing from these four firing positions under the proposed action. The proposed changes to munitions firing would not include firing over the refuge.

Because the number of rounds fired on YPG would remain within historical annual usage rates, no change in wildfire risk as a result of munitions firing would be expected. Wildfire varies across YPG, and primarily is driven by localized precipitation, vegetation growth, and site-specific humidity and moisture conditions rather than to specific testing and training events, including munitions firing, on YPG. Since the King Valley Wildland Fire fire, YPG has implemented procedures to minimize the potential for such an event to recur, as discussed in Section 3.7.1 and in Appendix G.

Comment 1e: **The DEIS also states that" ... all future uses of munitions impact areas would be precluded if unexploded ordinance and other munitions components that could cause contamination are not removed ... " This statement indicates that the land use is likely to change.**

Response 1e: Commenter misinterpreted the statement quoted from the document to infer future land use change is likely. The statement that unexploded munitions would preclude other uses of the land unless cleaned up does not imply that other uses are likely or even considered, it merely identifies that other uses would not be possible without clean up. No changes to the document were made.

Comment 2: **Noise**

Comment 2a: **The Arizona Wilderness Act of 1990 (Act) established the Kofa NWR Wilderness Area, Trigo Mountain Wilderness, Imperial NWR Wilderness Area and Muggins Mountain Wilderness Area. According to the DEIS, the Act does not preclude low-level over flights by military aircraft and states**

that" ... the ability to see or hear non-wilderness activities or uses from areas within a wilderness does not preclude such activities or uses up to the boundary of a wilderness area ... " This may be true, but these are noise-receptor sensitive areas established to preserve the inherent wild values of the lands contained therein, and thus should be considered when, as proposed in the DEIS, noise levels from increased munitions testing and training are expected to double.

Response 2a: Comment is inaccurate in stating noise levels are expected to double. PEIS analysis used a doubling of current noise levels (an increase of 3 dBA) as a conservative estimate of the changes that would result. Actual change in noise levels would be less than doubling of current noise levels. The analysis based on a doubling of current noise levels did not identify any significant impacts.

***Comment 2b:* Individuals engaging in outdoor recreational activities would be negatively affected by increased noise levels from expanded munitions testing. The constant barrage of munitions exploding in the distance, while recreating on the Refuge, is an unsettling experience and disturbs the solitude many come seeking at Kofa NWR. Wildlife would be displaced at least temporarily, or in some cases permanently, if the disturbance is as great as proposed in the DEIS.**

There is no "constant barrage" of munitions testing – individual rounds are fired and observation/results of each individual round are recorded. The number of rounds fired will not change from historical levels, but rounds would be fired into more areas on YPG compared to recent use. Recreational users on Kofa NWR would likely not perceive any difference from current YPG munitions noise, as it would require an approximate eight-fold increase in noise levels (10dBA) would be perceived as a doubling of noise levels by recreational users. See section 3.11.2.3.

***Comment 2c:* One topic not discussed in the DEIS is the increasing use of drones to conduct surveillance and other activities over Kofa NWR. Drones can be encountered on virtually any given day on the Refuge. The growing use of drones should be addressed in the DEIS due to their effects on refuge wildlife, visitors and wilderness values.**

Response 2c: Army use of unmanned aerial systems (which is presumably what commenter is referring to as "drones") is discussed in the PEIS. The Department of Homeland Security aerostat, which is airborne above the southwestern part of the refuge most of the time is not under control of YPG and is not addressed in the PEIS. Due to altitude of flights over YPG Kofa NWR, no significant noise impacts would result.

Operation of unmanned aerial systems (what the commenter refers to as drones) would be expected to decrease in proximity to the Kofa NWR as new launch/recovery areas for these systems would be developed in the Cibola region.

Further, the operation of unmanned aerial systems, as well as other military flights in airspace over the refuge and wilderness area, is consistent with the airspace designation and with the Act creating the wilderness area. USFWS should be alerting visitors to the designated military airspace above the refuge, including the wilderness area, such that visitors encountering overflights would be aware of the possibility in advance.

Comment 3: Safety and Recreation

***Comment 3a:* Expanding military munitions testing and training to the boundary of Kofa (and beyond in the event that over-fire occurs) is a great safety concern for Refuge staff and visitors. The decision to allow YPG to use one-fourth of the Refuge as a barrier for artillery testing may have been appropriate in 1958, but this decision needs to be reevaluated in light of the greatly increased human population in the Yuma area and subsequent use of Kofa NWR for outdoor recreation. This has become a significant safety concern for the Refuge and needs to be addressed by the YPG in the DEIS.**

Response 3a: Errant rounds cannot be controlled. This is the basis for the Department of Interior granting 171,000 acres of artillery buffer on Kofa NWR to YPG. While there would be no change in the number of rounds fired on YPG compared to historical levels, the risk of errant rounds would remain. It does not seem prudent consider removal of the artillery buffer area given that there are other outdoor recreational opportunities in the region.

***Comment 3b:* In the *Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Defense and Department of Interior relating to Kofa NWR and BLM Administered Lands (MOU)*, Military Liaison Officers are required to contact the Kofa NWR Refuge Manager and provide live firing schedules and digital cartographic information within five working days of tests. We believe Military Liaison Officers fail to make notifications on these activities based on Refuge staff reports of munitions testing occurring on the YPG Kofa Region, yet no prior contact has been received from YPG. We encourage YPG to adhere to the stipulations in the MOU. Should the proposed expansions proceed, it is imperative that notifications are reinitiated as a minimum safety precaution for Refuge staff and the 60,000+ annual visitors that camp, hike or hunt on the Refuge.**

Response 3b: The MOU requires YPG notify the refuge prior to firing over the refuge. YPG no longer fires over Kofa NWR for routine testing. Should a test require firing over the refuge, Kofa NWR would be notified in accordance with the MOU in advance of the firing.

***Comment 3c:* The Refuge Manager is ultimately responsible for the safety of visitors recreating on the Refuge. Staff performing field functions, including Law Enforcement personnel, Biologists and Refuge Volunteers, as well as employees at the SW Arizona National Wildlife Refuge Complex/Kofa NWR headquarters could be informed of military operations on the YPG and relay that information to the public to (1) help ensure their safety and (2) let them know what to expect in terms of a wilderness experience when visiting the Refuge. This process may help alleviate some of the complaints received from the public about the high levels of noise experienced on the Refuge from military testing because the public would be informed before traveling to the Refuge to hunt, hike or camp.**

Response 3c: Military testing occurs throughout the week on YPG in the Kofa region. USFWS should inform all visitors to the refuge that noise from military testing will likely be encountered, as there is no time when such noise would not be likely.

***Comment 3d:* The MOU also requires Refuge personnel to contact YPG for permission to conduct aerial wildlife surveys or other research or maintenance activities over most of the Refuge. Receiving permission from the YPG is an onerous process and results in a loss of valuable staff time, and occasionally causes lost windows of opportunity to conduct important work because of events such as**

bad weather days, availability of pilots or aircraft, or urgent change of schedules with partners such as the Arizona Game and Fish Department. In order for the FWS to meet Refuge specific goals and objectives and fulfill the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System, including projects with cooperating partners, it is essential that permission to conduct aerial activities on Kofa NWR remain obtainable and accessible. With the proposed expansion of military operations on the YPG Kofa Region, scheduling of flights with YPG would likely become more restrictive and constrained.

With the increased operations of military aircraft on and in close proximity to Kofa NWR, we are concerned with an increased potential of collisions between military aircraft and aircraft conducting wildlife surveys. The MOU requires YPG to maintain a minimum altitude of 1500 feet above ground level over most of the Refuge when conducting military operations, with the exception of the airspace over the southern portion of the Refuge designated R-2307, where there is no limit. Refuge personnel conducting low level aerial surveys, research or maintenance activities may be more likely to encounter military aircraft, particularly if the Refuge is not notified of military activities. The result could be disastrous.

Response 3d: There would be no change to the process for airspace management as a result of the action analyzed in the PEIS. As all flights (military, private, and USFWS) in the restricted airspace over Kofa NWR must be scheduled and cleared through air traffic control. There should be no potential for aerial collisions as long as USFWS obtains proper clearance for its flights.

Comment 4: Wildlife

Comment 4a: The DEIS states that the greatest impacts to wildlife on the YPG Kofa Region would be "... minor due to on-going disturbance and the level of human activity ..." and indirect, i.e., from the loss of habitat. Concerning effects to desert bighorn sheep, the DEIS states that new and expanded testing and training areas would largely be outside of habitats preferred by sheep and thus impacts would be expected to be minor and short-term. The cumulative effects analysis in the DEIS is in disagreement with the environmental effects presented, which states that the incremental habitat loss to native wildlife species would be moderate.

Response 4a: There is no disagreement in the analysis presented in the PEIS. The commenter inappropriately references a specific unknown possibility to create the illusion of a disagreement. In the discussion of cumulative impacts, the following statement is made:

"The size of a solar development on YPG lands has not been determined, and the sites under consideration range from several hundred acres to approximately 8,900 ac (B&V, 2011; USAEC, 2012). Development of a renewable solar electric generation facility would result in removal of up to approximately 8,900 ac of desert scrub habitat. There likely would be moderate incremental cumulative impacts to wildlife species that utilize this habitat when this loss is combined with other projects on YPG that would remove desert scrub habitat."

Whether a solar facility, if one would even be constructed, would impact this acreage is unknown and it is the size of the solar facility, not the actions analyzed under the proposed action/preferred alternative that would drive cumulative impacts to a moderate intensity.

***Comment 4b:* We disagree with both the environmental and cumulative effects analyses presented in the DEIS. We believe that the impacts to wildlife from habitat loss on the YPG Kofa Region and the disturbance to wildlife from increased human activity, including noise, would be long-term and significant on both the YPG and the Refuge. For instance, desert bighorn sheep historically traversed large areas of open range to colonize and establish new populations in other mountain ranges; or to reproduce with other herds located there. The use of corridors such as these served to increase genetic variability and resulted in improved vigor and productivity in the herds. Without intact corridors connecting adjacent mountain ranges, desert bighorn sheep populations could become genetically weak and compromised leading to further decline.**

Response 4b: USFWS provides no basis for asserting travel corridors would be eliminated or that environmental and cumulative effects to wildlife on the refuge and on YPG would be significant and long term. YPG feels the impacts to wildlife are appropriately assessed.

Bighorn sheep routinely move across active firing ranges and munitions impact areas at present with no detriment noted. Individuals of the experimental Sonoran pronghorn population have traversed an active and heavily used munitions impact area in the eastern Kofa Firing Range area without incident. As wildlife cross active munitions impact areas at present, there is no reason to anticipate that there would be any changes to this under the proposed action. There would be no increase in the number of rounds fired compared to historical levels, just an increase in the areas where they may be fired. Because there would be no change in the number of rounds fired on YPG compared to historical firing levels, the new or expanded munitions impact areas will allow for less intense use of current munitions impact areas and could lead to improved habitat for wildlife.

Comment 5: Threatened and Endangered Species

***Comment 5a:* We disagree with the statement in the DEIS that the incremental loss of habitat on the YPG would contribute to minor cumulative impacts to potential T &E species over both the short-and long-term. The Refuge is bounded on three sides by the YPG, where high levels of human development and activity already occur. As indicated above, the gradual clearing of land to build facilities, runways and other forms of infrastructure necessary for munitions testing and training on the YPG, as well as the expansion of a firing range impact zone, is gradually isolating the Refuge making it an "island". If the proposed action were implemented, it could eliminate important habitat corridors between the Refuge and other areas of native wildlife habitat beyond YPG boundaries.**

Response 5a: Animal species on Kofa NWR, including the experimental population of Sonoran pronghorn, regularly cross portions of YPG that receive substantial human use, including active munitions impact areas. These wildlife corridors are in use with the current level of military activity and anticipated future use of munitions will remain with historical levels. Wildlife, including listed species would be expected to continue to cross the installation. The proposed conversion of land to impervious

surfaces represents less than one-tenth of the land area of YPG. The proposed activities would not isolate the refuge from the perspective of animal species.

Comment 5b: **A project aimed at helping recover the endangered Sonoran pronghorn was initiated on the Refuge in 2011. In December 2011 and 2012, animals from the Cabeza Prieta NWR captive breeding program were relocated to Kofa NWR. Some were placed in a holding facility for breeding and others to allow for acclimation to their new environment prior to release into the wild. The herd was classified as a "non-essential experimental population" outside of the Refuge boundary under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) in order to allow for greater management flexibility by the FWS. However, Sonoran pronghorn within the Refuge are listed as Threatened and, therefore, activities occurring on the YPG Kofa Region that negatively affect this species must be considered in the DEIS.**

The DEIS states that impacts to Sonoran pronghorn would be expected to be minor and longterm on the YPG. The DEIS goes on to say, however, that if the Sonoran pronghorn population is reclassified from a non-essential experimental population to either threatened or endangered under the ESA, YPG would re-evaluate implementation of the proposed project at the current site. Interestingly, in contrast to what the DEIS prognosticates-that the Sonoran pronghorn would likely avoid areas where human activity is occurring, including the YPG Kofa Region the first Sonoran pronghorn that were released from the Refuge holding facility on January 2013 traveled to the southeastern corner of the Refuge and then across the YPG East Kofa Region munitions impact zone. They were last seen south of the YPG Kofa Region near Welton. (See enclosure.) More recently, three Sonoran pronghorn were seen near a pond on the YPG Kofa Region where the expanded munitions impact zone is proposed.

Because the Sonoran pronghorn on the Refuge would likely be negatively affected by the increased activities and operations on the YPG, and because the animals appear to have a preference for the area south of the Refuge on the YPG Kofa Region, it seems prudent for the military to consider alternative options for expanding activities and operations to other areas of YPG than at the current proposed location.

Response 5b: YPG entered consultation with USFWS regarding potential impacts of the proposed activities proposed in to Sonoran pronghorn. The results of that consultation, including any biological opinion issued by USFWS will be incorporated into the final PEIS. The pronghorns that enter YPG are no longer considered threatened, and YPG is conferring about the effects on them.

Comment 5c: **The DEIS recognizes that the proposed activities in the YPG East Kofa Region could impact a large area of potential Sonoran desert tortoise habitat and, in areas of high quality habitat, surveys would need to be conducted to determine extent of use. The YPG would plan to capture and relocate tortoises to other areas if found within the proposed project area. We applaud the YPG's intention to save individual tortoises, but we do not consider the relocation of animals behind a barrier fence, as proposed in the DEIS, to be an adequate mitigation measure for a species that is a candidate for listing under the ESA (75FR78094). We believe that the threat to Sonoran desert tortoises and their habitat would be significant and long-term on the YPG Kofa Region, as well as the**

Refuge. The continued, deliberate loss of habitat for a species already seriously threatened by human activity and development is neither acceptable nor justifiable.

Response 5c: This comment requires clarification of a couple of issues:

Most of the area in the East Kofa Region within potential desert tortoise habitat would be used for dismounted troop maneuvers, which would not adversely affect the habitat or the tortoises. The loss of habitat in this region would be minimal.

2) There is no intent to relocate tortoise into a fenced enclosure from a proposed project area. Rather tortoise would be relocated from work areas to suitable habitat and the work area would be fenced to prevent reentry and subsequent incidental impacts. This approach is consistent with the Arizona Interagency Desert Tortoise Team guidelines and any relocated tortoise would remain free living.

The PEIS specifies measures YPG implements, including review of all proposed activities in potential desert tortoise habitat, to minimize the potential for impacts. Further the PEIS identifies that should the Sonoran Desert tortoise be listed, YPG would consult with the USFWS regarding actions that could impact the tortoise. With the conservation measures proposed, YPG considers the analysis of potential impacts to the Sonoran desert tortoise to be appropriate as written.

Comment 6: Vegetation

We generally disagree with the DEIS analysis that the cumulative effect of incremental vegetation removal and habitat loss from all proposed activities would be moderate. Between clearing hundreds of acres of land for the construction of buildings, runways, etc., and the destruction of thousands of acres of range/open land by munitions testing, we believe that the cumulative impacts will be significant and long-term.

Response 6: The hundreds of acres of land cleared for buildings and other impervious surfaces (runways, etc) would be less than one-tenth of one percent of the land on YPG. Establishment of new or expanded munitions impact areas would not result in destruction of thousands of acres of range/open land. Existing munitions impact areas retain normal desert vegetation, as most of the impact area is buffer to allow appropriate safety. As there would be no increase in the number of rounds fired compared to historical levels, the new and expanded munitions impact areas would allow for less intense use of any specific area, which would benefit vegetation. The impacts to vegetation are appropriately assessed as moderate.

Comment 7: Visual Resources

Comment 7a: **We disagree that the dust and obscurants caused by testing and training (ordnance exploding, machine gun and canon fire, heavy equipment operation, including tanks and other armored vehicles, etc.) would be temporary. We consider this a long-term effect because it would be an on-going, re-occurring practice.**

Response 7a: The PEIS acknowledges that military activities that generate dust (primarily vehicle testing and training activities) are recurring events. YPG considers the individual events to be separated in time and space sufficiently to warrant a temporary designation with regard duration of impacts.

Comment 7b: **In addition, the increased noise pollution during munitions testing, as well as the buzzing of drones conducting low level flights around the Castle Dome and Kofa Mountains would have an overall moderate to significant impact on the aesthetics of the Refuge Wilderness.**

Response 7b: There is no basis for stating there would be increased noise pollution from munitions testing as there would be no increase in the number of rounds fired compared to historical levels. Noise levels associated with munitions testing would not change.

Operation of unmanned aerial systems (what the commenter refers to as drones) would be expected to decrease in proximity to the Kofa NWR as new launch/recovery areas for these systems would be developed in the Cibola region. Aesthetic impacts are appropriately assessed as minor.

Comment 8: Summary

We suggest that the YPG consider additional action alternatives than just the proposed action for the YPG Kofa Region. The YPG is owner to a vast amount of land in southern Arizona where munitions testing and training could be conducted and result in far less impact to the Refuge. Kofa NWR is a unique wilderness refuge where over 60,000 visitors per year come to experience nature and enjoy outdoor recreational activities in an untrammeled desert environment. The wildlife and wildlife habitat contained therein, and habitat corridors that the YPG Kofa Region serves to provide between the Refuge and other important wildlife habitat areas are equally important to the survival of the plants and animals living there.

Response 8: YPG has limited options in locating munitions impact areas for artillery testing, as the firing distances on these munitions increases with technological advances. Ballistic testing of long-range artillery is not compatible with the testing conducted in the Cibola Region, so relocating these test procedures to Cibola is not possible. An alternative to the proposed munitions impact area would be to resume firing over the refuge into the East Arm of the YPG Kofa region, but this is not considered feasible.

Responses to comments in letter from Arizona Game and Fish department dated October 3, 2013

The general comments provided by AGFD are noted and YPG will continue to work with the department on these issues, as requested. No changes to the PEIS were made as a result of the general comments.

Specific Comments

Comment 1: 3.16.1.2: Western Yellow Bat - Change the second to last sentence to the following.

A western yellow bat was tentatively identified during mist net surveys in Vinegaroon Wash (YPG, 2012b), and one western yellow bat was captured by AGFD at Lake Alex. Suitable roosting habitat for this species is not present on YPG, but the species may forage on YPG or occur as a transient.

Response 1: Section 3.16.1.2: Text regarding the western yellow bat was revised as indicated by the commenter.

Comment 2: 3.18.1: Existing Conditions-Change the second sentence in the eighth paragraph to the following.

The main non-native plants of concern are considered exotic invasive plants and include buffelgrass, Athel tamarisk (*Tamarix aphylla*), salt cedar (*Tamarix* spp. and hybrids), ~~Mediterranean~~ and Arabian grass (*Schismus arabicus*), Mediterranean grass, Sahara mustard, and puncturevine (*Tribulus terrestris*).

Response 2: Section 3.18.1: Text revised as indicated by the commenter.

Comment 3: Table G-1: Define HS, SR, and WSC.

Response 3: Table G-1 – definitions were added.



United States Department of the Interior



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Sergio Obregon
NEPA Coordinator
Department of the Army
United States Army Yuma Proving Ground
301 C Street
Yuma, AZ 85365-9498

Dear Mr. Obregon:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the *Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for Activities and Operations at Yuma Proving Ground, Arizona* (DEIS) dated August 2013. We have a number of concerns over the proposed infrastructure and runway construction, and expansion of munitions testing and training on the Yuma Proving Ground (YPG) and how the proposed activities will affect Kofa National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge/NWR).

The DEIS lists 31 "short-term" projects proposed for the YPG Kofa Region. Our comments and concerns are specifically directed at the activities proposed for this area. We do not address the proposed activities for the YPG Laguna or the Cibola Regions. Impacts to several categories of environmental consequences are summarized below, including: land use; noise; safety; recreation; wildlife; threatened and endangered species; vegetation; and visual resources.

Land Use

The YPG Kofa Region is used primarily for weapons and munitions testing and training. Most of the YPG's 400 firing positions are in the Kofa Region and are concentrated along the north eastern side of the Kofa Firing Front. The munitions impact areas include a Nuclear Regulatory Commission licensed Depleted Uranium impact area.

Under the Proposed Action within the YPG Kofa Region:

- 29,757 acres of range/open land would be converted to munitions impact areas, and
- 51,180 acres of range/open land would be converted to dismounted maneuver areas

Proposed construction activities in the YPG Kofa Region would result in clearing approximately 240 acres of desert habitat for the East Kofa Operations Center. All vegetation would be removed from this acreage. Specifically:

- 54 acres of range/open land would be converted to impervious surfaces
- 156 acres of range/open land would be converted to a launch/recovery area
- 30 acres of range/open land would be converted to transient gun positions (TGP)
- 10 acres of range/open land would be converted to institutional use

Additional acres of desert habitat that would be cleared include:

- 2.7 acres of range/open land for utilities placement
- 305 acres of range/open land for drop zone construction
- 26.1 acres of range/open land to institutional use (Project K030—runway, taxiway, aircraft shelter, command center, classrooms, storage, parking, etc.)

The proposed clearing of land for the construction of new facilities and other associated military activities would total over 500 acres and result in the elimination of virtually all wildlife and wildlife habitat values associated with said land.

The DEIS states that the proposed projects do not change the land use designation for the YPG Kofa Region (range/open land). This statement is misleading. While the land use designation may not change, the proposed activities do change the use of the land, and the impacts—both on the YPG Kofa Region and the Refuge—would be *significant* and *long term*. The proposed expansion of the munitions firing range (29,757 acres) would be especially significant, bringing the munitions impact area up to the very border of the Refuge. Expanded munitions testing would destroy native habitat over the long-term and cause increased mortality of native wildlife, both in the short- and long-term.

Habitat would be destroyed through: (1) blasting the surface of the ground; (2) destroying native vegetation; (3) contributing to the establishment of invasive noxious weeds in the disturbed soils; and (4) by introducing pollutants into the landscape from exploded munitions, vehicle emissions and petroleum products from military vehicles. Increased mortality to native wildlife would result from both direct and indirect causes, including (1) mortality by live fire; (2) decreased survival from nutritional stress and less time spent foraging; and (3) depressed reproductive fitness—also a result of being on a lowered nutritional plane; (4) potential higher predation levels, (5) autoimmune compromise (higher incidence of disease).

Instances of over-fire and munitions landing/detonating on the Refuge have been documented in the past and will likely increase if the munitions testing area is expanded as proposed. In addition, range fires have been started on the Refuge by munitions testing, as documented in comments by the previous Kofa NWR Manager in the *YPG Excalibur Limited User Test Program Environmental Assessment*. Munitions testing caused a range fire—the *King Valley Wildland Fire*—that burned 29,000 acres on the Refuge and 3000 acres on YPG in 2005. Fires in desert environments are especially damaging because of the fragile nature of desert vegetation. It can take decades for slow-growing, non-fire adapted plants to reestablish in this arid landscape.

The DEIS also states that "...all future uses of munitions impact areas would be precluded if unexploded ordinance and other munitions components that could cause contamination are not removed..." This statement indicates that the land use *is* likely to change.

Noise

The Arizona Wilderness Act of 1990 (Act) established the Kofa NWR Wilderness Area, Trigo Mountain Wilderness, Imperial NWR Wilderness Area and Muggins Mountain Wilderness Area. According to the DEIS, the Act does not preclude low-level over flights by military aircraft and states that "...the ability to see or hear non-wilderness activities or uses from areas within a wilderness does not preclude such activities or uses up to the boundary of a wilderness area..." This may be true, but these are noise-receptor sensitive areas established to preserve the inherent wild values of the lands contained therein, and thus should be considered when, as proposed in the DEIS, noise levels from increased munitions testing and training are expected to *double*.

Individuals engaging in outdoor recreational activities would be negatively affected by increased noise levels from expanded munitions testing. The constant barrage of munitions exploding in the distance, while recreating on the Refuge, is an unsettling experience and disturbs the solitude many come seeking at Kofa NWR. Wildlife would be displaced at least temporarily, or in some cases permanently, if the disturbance is as great as proposed in the DEIS.

One topic not discussed in the DEIS is the increasing use of drones to conduct surveillance and other activities over Kofa NWR. Drones can be encountered on virtually any given day on the Refuge. The growing use of drones should be addressed in the DEIS due to their effects on refuge wildlife, visitors and wilderness values.

Safety and Recreation

Expanding military munitions testing and training to the boundary of Kofa (and beyond in the event that over-fire occurs) is a great safety concern for Refuge staff and visitors. The decision to allow YPG to use one-fourth of the Refuge as a barrier for artillery testing may have been appropriate in 1958, but this decision needs to be reevaluated in light of the greatly increased human population in the Yuma area and subsequent use of Kofa NWR for outdoor recreation. This has become a significant safety concern for the Refuge and needs to be addressed by the YPG in the DEIS.

According to the DEIS, the Secretary of the Interior signed a letter dated December 3, 1958 that granted the YPG to use 171,000 acres of Kofa NWR as an artillery buffer zone. In 1960 the U.S. Census estimated the population in Yuma County to be 46,235. By 2010 the population in the County had grown to 195,751 permanent residents; 93,064 of which lived in the City of Yuma; i.e., the population of Yuma County quadrupled during the intervening 60 years. In addition, it is estimated that the City of Yuma doubles its population each winter to nearly 200,000 people during the months October through May when the 'Snowbirds' come from northern states and Canadian provinces to spend the mild winters. One result of the increased population to Yuma is that the visitation rate on Kofa NWR has dramatically increased to over 65,000 visitors annually (Table 1). Put another way, more people visit Kofa NWR today than lived in all of Yuma County in 1958.

Table 1. Population growth in Yuma County and the visitation rate on Kofa National Wildlife Refuge, 1950-2010.

Year	Yuma County Population	Kofa NWR Visitation
2010	195,751	67,171
2000	160,026	52,846
1990	106,895	27,295 (1993*)
1980	90,554	NA
1970	60,827	NA
1960	46,235	NA
1950	28,006	NA

*Extensive collection of visitor use on Kofa NWR began in 1993

In the *Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Defense and Department of Interior relating to Kofa NWR and BLM Administered Lands* (MOU), Military Liaison Officers are required to contact the Kofa NWR Refuge Manager and provide live firing schedules and digital cartographic information within five working days of tests. We believe Military Liaison Officers fail to make notifications on these activities based on Refuge staff reports of munitions testing occurring on the YPG Kofa Region, yet no prior contact has been received from YPG. We encourage YPG to adhere to the stipulations in the MOU. Should the proposed expansions proceed, it is imperative that notifications are reinitiated as a minimum safety precaution for Refuge staff and the 60,000+ annual visitors that camp, hike or hunt on the Refuge.

The Refuge Manager is ultimately responsible for the safety of visitors recreating on the Refuge. Staff performing field functions, including Law Enforcement personnel, Biologists and Refuge Volunteers, as well as employees at the SW Arizona National Wildlife Refuge Complex/Kofa NWR headquarters could be informed of military operations on the YPG and relay that information to the public to (1) help ensure their safety and (2) let them know what to expect in terms of a wilderness experience when visiting the Refuge. This process may help alleviate some of the complaints received from the public about the high levels of noise experienced on the Refuge from military testing because the public would be informed *before* traveling to the Refuge to hunt, hike or camp.

The MOU also requires Refuge personnel to contact YPG for permission to conduct aerial wildlife surveys or other research or maintenance activities over most of the Refuge. Receiving permission from the YPG is an onerous process and results in a loss of valuable staff time, and occasionally causes lost windows of opportunity to conduct important work because of events such as bad weather days, availability of pilots or aircraft, or urgent change of schedules with partners such as the Arizona Game and Fish Department. In order for the FWS to meet Refuge-specific goals and objectives and fulfill the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System, including projects with cooperating partners, it is essential that permission to conduct aerial activities on Kofa NWR remain obtainable and accessible. With the proposed expansion of military operations on the YPG Kofa Region, scheduling of flights with YPG would likely become more restrictive and constrained.

With the increased operations of military aircraft on and in close proximity to Kofa NWR, we are concerned with an increased potential of collisions between military aircraft and aircraft conducting wildlife surveys. The MOU requires YPG to maintain a minimum altitude of 1500 feet above ground level over most of the Refuge when conducting military operations, with the exception of the airspace over the southern portion of the Refuge designated R-2307, where there is no limit. Refuge personnel conducting low level aerial surveys, research or maintenance activities may be more likely to encounter military aircraft, particularly if the Refuge is not notified of military activities. The result could be disastrous.

Wildlife

Kofa NWR was established in 1939 to conserve and protect native wildlife and their habitats, especially desert bighorn sheep, and has been used as a seed source to reestablish previously extirpated desert bighorn sheep populations throughout the southwestern United States. From approximately 2000 through 2006, the desert bighorn sheep population on the Refuge declined from approximately 800 to 400 animals. The definitive cause(s) of the population decline is not fully understood. We are conducting monitoring and research to investigate potential causes, but any activity that could further decrease sheep survival, directly or indirectly, must be carefully considered.

The DEIS states that the greatest impacts to wildlife on the YPG Kofa Region would be "...minor due to on-going disturbance and the level of human activity..." and indirect, i.e., from the loss of habitat. Concerning effects to desert bighorn sheep, the DEIS states that new and expanded testing and training areas would largely be outside of habitats preferred by sheep and thus impacts would be expected to be *minor and short-term*. The cumulative effects analysis in the DEIS is in disagreement with the environmental effects presented, which states that the incremental habitat loss to native wildlife species would be *moderate*.

We disagree with both the environmental and cumulative effects analyses presented in the DEIS. We believe that the impacts to wildlife from habitat loss on the YPG Kofa Region and the disturbance to wildlife from increased human activity, including noise, would be *long-term* and *significant* on both the YPG and the Refuge. For instance, desert bighorn sheep historically traversed large areas of open range to colonize and establish new populations in other mountain ranges; or to reproduce with other herds located there. The use of corridors such as these served to increase genetic variability and resulted in improved vigor and productivity in the herds. Without intact corridors connecting adjacent mountain ranges, desert bighorn sheep populations could become genetically weak and compromised leading to further decline.

Threatened and Endangered Species (T&E)

We disagree with the statement in the DEIS that the incremental loss of habitat on the YPG would contribute to minor cumulative impacts to potential T&E species over both the short-and long-term. The Refuge is bounded on three sides by the YPG, where high levels of human development and activity already occur. As indicated above, the gradual clearing of land to build facilities, runways and other forms of infrastructure necessary for munitions testing and training on the YPG, as well as the expansion of a firing range impact zone, is gradually isolating the Refuge making it an "island". If the proposed action were implemented, it could eliminate

important habitat corridors between the Refuge and other areas of native wildlife habitat beyond YPG boundaries.

A project aimed at helping recover the endangered Sonoran pronghorn was initiated on the Refuge in 2011. In December 2011 and 2012, animals from the Cabeza Prieta NWR captive breeding program were relocated to Kofa NWR. Some were placed in a holding facility for breeding and others to allow for acclimation to their new environment prior to release into the wild. The herd was classified as a “non-essential experimental population” outside of the Refuge boundary under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) in order to allow for greater management flexibility by the FWS. However, Sonoran pronghorn within the Refuge are listed as Threatened and, therefore, activities occurring on the YPG Kofa Region that negatively affect this species must be considered in the DEIS.

The DEIS states that impacts to Sonoran pronghorn would be expected to be *minor* and *long-term* on the YPG. The DEIS goes on to say, however, that if the Sonoran pronghorn population is reclassified from a non-essential experimental population to either threatened or endangered under the ESA, YPG would re-evaluate implementation of the proposed project at the current site. Interestingly, in contrast to what the DEIS prognosticates—that the Sonoran pronghorn would likely avoid areas where human activity is occurring, including the YPG Kofa Region—the first Sonoran pronghorn that were released from the Refuge holding facility on January 2013 traveled to the southeastern corner of the Refuge and then across the YPG East Kofa Region munitions impact zone. They were last seen south of the YPG Kofa Region near Welton. (See enclosure.) More recently, three Sonoran pronghorn were seen near a pond on the YPG Kofa Region where the expanded munitions impact zone is proposed.

Because the Sonoran pronghorn on the Refuge would likely be negatively affected by the increased activities and operations on the YPG, and because the animals appear to have a preference for the area south of the Refuge on the YPG Kofa Region, it seems prudent for the military to consider alternative options for expanding activities and operations to other areas of YPG than at the current proposed location.

The DEIS recognizes that the proposed activities in the YPG East Kofa Region could impact a large area of potential Sonoran desert tortoise habitat and, in areas of high quality habitat, surveys would need to be conducted to determine extent of use. The YPG would plan to capture and relocate tortoises to other areas if found within the proposed project area. We applaud the YPG’s intention to save individual tortoises, but we do not consider the relocation of animals behind a barrier fence, as proposed in the DEIS, to be an adequate mitigation measure for a species that is a candidate for listing under the ESA (75FR78094). We believe that the threat to Sonoran desert tortoises and their habitat would be *significant and long-term* on the YPG Kofa Region, as well as the Refuge. The continued, deliberate loss of habitat for a species already seriously threatened by human activity and development is neither acceptable nor justifiable.

Vegetation

We generally disagree with the DEIS analysis that the cumulative effect of incremental vegetation removal and habitat loss from all proposed activities would be *moderate*. Between clearing hundreds of acres of land for the construction of buildings, runways, etc., and the

destruction of thousands of acres of range/open land by munitions testing, we believe that the cumulative impacts will be significant and long-term.

Visual Resources

The effect on visual resources was briefly covered in the DEIS. It noted the following:

- Temporary minor impacts from construction-related airborne dust
- Recurring temporary minor impacts from dust and other obscurants caused by testing and training
- Potential long-term minor impacts from increased use of lighter-than-air unmanned aerial systems
- Potential minor long-term impacts from appearance of buildings

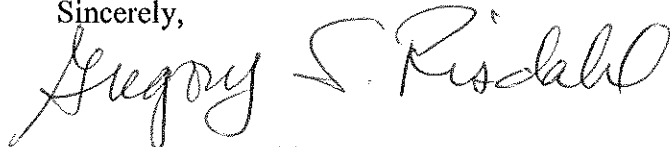
We disagree that the dust and obscurants caused by testing and training (ordnance exploding, machine gun and canon fire, heavy equipment operation, including tanks and other armored vehicles, etc.) would be *temporary*. We consider this a *long-term* effect because it would be an on-going, re-occurring practice. In addition, the increased noise pollution during munitions testing, as well as the buzzing of drones conducting low level flights around the Castle Dome and Kofa Mountains would have an overall *moderate* to *significant* impact on the aesthetics of the Refuge Wilderness.

Summary

We suggest that the YPG consider additional action alternatives than just the proposed action for the YPG Kofa Region. The YPG is owner to a vast amount of land in southern Arizona where munitions testing and training could be conducted and result in far less impact to the Refuge. Kofa NWR is a unique wilderness refuge where over 60,000 visitors per year come to experience nature and enjoy outdoor recreational activities in an untrammelled desert environment. The wildlife and wildlife habitat contained therein, and habitat corridors that the YPG Kofa Region serves to provide between the Refuge and other important wildlife habitat areas are equally important to the survival of the plants and animals living there.

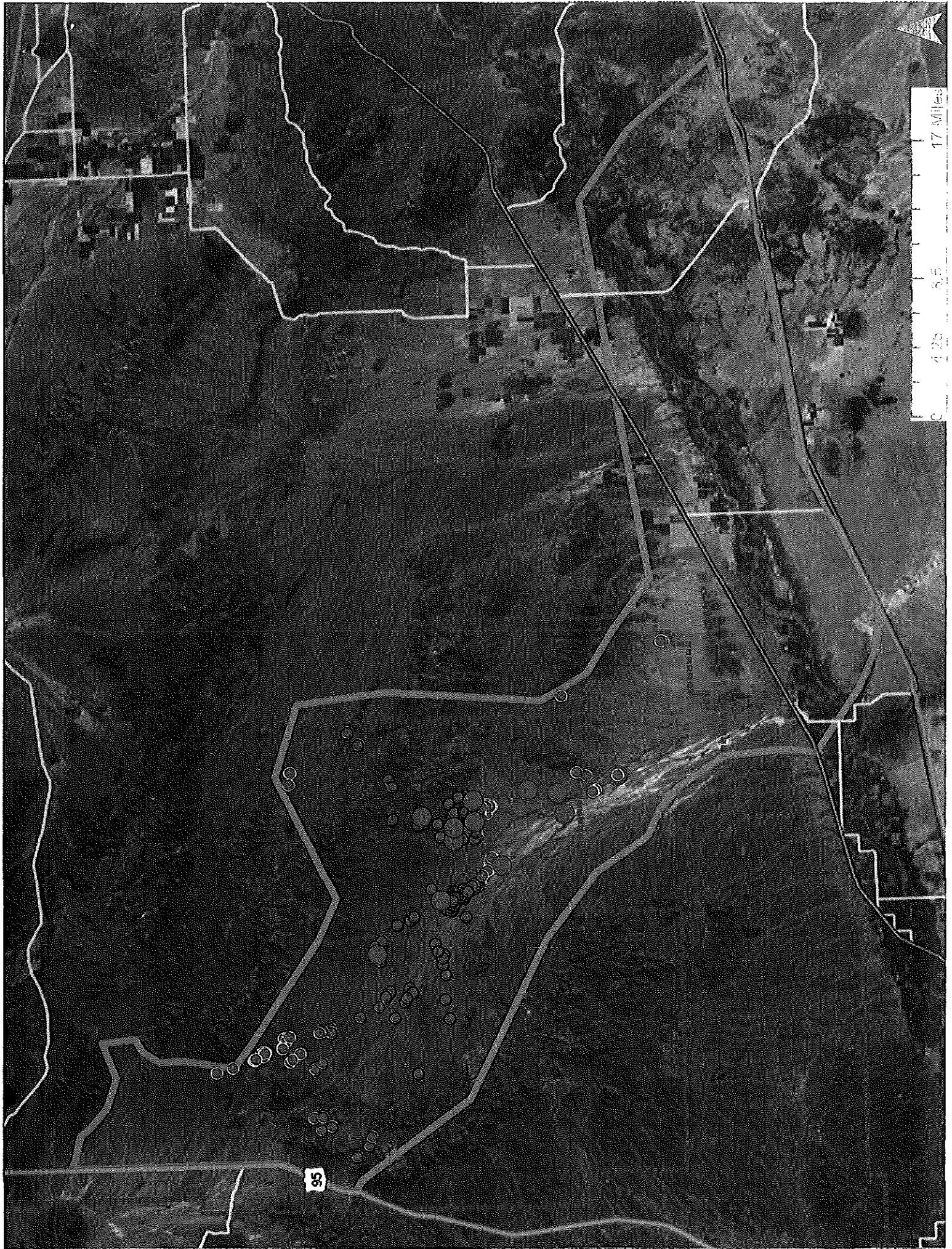
Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on the *Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for Activities and Operations at Yuma Proving Ground, Arizona*. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (928) 345-4915, or by email at greg_risdahl@fws.gov if you have any questions or wish to discuss any comments in detail.

Sincerely,



Gregory S. Risdahl
Kofa National Wildlife Refuge Manager

Enc. Sonoran pronghorn satellite telemetry location data



From: Steward, Daniel M CIV (US) [<mailto:daniel.m.steward.civ@mail.mil>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 08, 2014 4:38 PM
To: Fernandez, Erin
Cc: Greg Risdahl; Christa Weise; Obregon, Sergio CIV (US); Ruerup, Charles F Jr CIV (US); Reaves, Richard/ATL
Subject: RE: YPG PEIS and section 7 consultation (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

Hi Erin,

Thanks for the update. We will be sending the initiation letter and BE soon. I will let you know if there is anything else I need to finish up the document.

Daniel Steward
Environmental Sciences, Wildlife Biologist U.S. Army Garrison Yuma IMYM-PWE
301 C. Street, Bldg. 307
Yuma, AZ 85365-9498
Voice: (928)328-2125
Fax: (928)328-6696

-----Original Message-----

From: Fernandez, Erin [mailto:erin_fernandez@fws.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, January 08, 2014 11:57 AM
To: Steward, Daniel M CIV (US)
Cc: Greg Risdahl; Christa Weise
Subject: YPG PEIS and section 7 consultation

Hi Daniel,

I just wanted to let you know that I had a chance to speak with Jean Calhoun about our call on Monday and she is agreement with the recommendation I made on the phone for formal consultation to address the potential effects to Sonoran pronghorn on Kofa NWR as a result of fire started by YPG activities on YPG. We both agree the potential effects to SPH on Kofa from fire (and fire fighting activities) are neither discountable or insignificant and that therefore formal consultation would be prudent and provide YPG the best coverage for your proposed action. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks so much!

Erin

Erin Fernandez
Fish and Wildlife Biologist/Mexico Program Coordinator U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Arizona Ecological Services Office
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(520) 670-6150, extension 238
(520) 670-6155 (fax)
<http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arizona/>

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, YUMA
301 C STREET
YUMA AZ 85365-9498

March 25, 2014

Environmental Sciences Division

Jean Calhoun
United States Fish and Wildlife Service
Arizona Ecological Services Office
201 North Bonita Avenue, Suite 141
Tucson, Arizona 85745

Dear Ms. Calhoun:

The purpose of this letter is to request formal consultation of the potential impacts to Sonoran pronghorn on the Kofa National Wildlife Refuge (KNWR) and conference the impacts to the Sonoran pronghorn on United States Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground (USAG YPG) from the current and future activities on USAG YPG.

U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Ground (USAG YPG) is preparing a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) which assesses the potential impacts associated with activities and operations at Yuma Proving Ground (YPG). Enclosed is a Biological Evaluation (BE) to support our request to initiate formal consultation under Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act (ESA). You may also refer to the enclosed Draft PEIS for additional information about the proposed action.

Sonoran pronghorn (*Antilocapra americana sonoriensis*) were released on Kofa National Wildlife Refuge (KNWR) as part of a nonessential experimental population under section 10(j) of the Endangered Species Act. Sonoran pronghorn are found on USAG YPG and on KNWR. For Section 7 consultation purposes, given ESA Section 10(j)(2)(C)(i), we understand the population of Sonoran pronghorn on USAG YPG shall be treated as a species proposed to be listed. We understand each member of the population on KNWR shall be treated as a threatened species.

We have met informally with your staff and KNWR staff to share information on USAG YPG's general impacts to pronghorn and specifically to address impacts to visual, auditory functions, impacts from munitions, and impacts from fire to pronghorn on USAG YPG and on KNWR. Based on these discussions and as described in the enclosed BE, we have determined the proposed action may affect, and is likely to adversely affect Sonoran Pronghorn. We have also determined the action is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of Sonoran pronghorn. Therefore, we request initiation of formal consultation under Section 7 of the ESA for the population on KNWR and request your concurrence with our jeopardy determination for the population outside of KNWR. We request to conduct the conference in accordance with the provisions of 50 CFR 402.10(d) and (e). No critical habitat has been established for this species so no analysis of critical habitat is necessary.

In order to meet the timeframes associated with the PEIS, we request expedited review for this consultation. The installation Wildlife Biologist, Daniel Steward, will be the primary point of contact for this consultation. He can be reached at daniel.m.steward.civ@mail.mil or (928) 328-2125.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard T. Martin".

Richard T. Martin
Garrison Manager

Enclosure

Biological Evaluation of the Effect of Continued Operations at Yuma Proving Grounds on a Nonessential Experimental Sonoran Pronghorn Population Released on Kofa National Wildlife Refuge

Introduction

The purpose of this Biological Evaluation is to review impacts of current and future military activities and operations on the US Army Garrison Yuma Proving Grounds (YPG) in sufficient detail to determine to what extent the proposed action may affect the federally endangered Sonoran pronghorn (*Antilocapra americana sonoriensis*). In addition, the following information is provided to comply with statutory requirements to use the best scientific and commercial information available when assessing the risks posed to listed and/or proposed species by proposed federal actions. Critical Habitat is not designated for Sonoran pronghorn; therefore it will not be a component of this analysis. This initiation package is prepared in accordance with legal requirements set forth under regulations implementing Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (50 CFR 402; 16 U.S.C. 1536 (c)).

Sonoran pronghorn were released on the Kofa National Wildlife Refuge (KNWR) as part of a nonessential experimental population under section 10 (j) of the Endangered Species Act. For the purposes of Section 7 consultation, according to 50 CFR part 17.83, a nonessential experimental population must be treated as a species proposed for listing, unless it occurs on National Wildlife Refuge or National Park lands in which it is treated as a threatened species. Because YPG is located directly adjacent to the Kofa National Wildlife Refuge (KNWR), and the pronghorn is found within the Action Area, the Army must consult on potential affects to the pronghorn within KNWR and confer on any actions likely to jeopardize the species outside the refuge.

Description of the Proposed Action

YPG's proposed action includes current and future military activities and operations at YPG. This includes current and future construction, testing, and training activities as well as continued operations and maintenance of the range and facilities.

The Action Area includes all of YPG and KNWR as there may be direct or indirect affects to pronghorn on the refuge.

YPG covers over 838,000 acres located in Yuma and La Paz Counties in the southwest corner of Arizona about 25 miles north of the city of Yuma. The KNWR is nested within the "U" shape of the YPG borders. Imperial National Wildlife Refuge (INWR) shares a boundary on the southwest of YPG. Much of the boundary is also managed by the Bureau of Land Management.

YPG is divided into 3 regions: Cibola, Laguna, and Kofa (Figure 1). The ranges within the 3 regions are used for:

- testing and evaluation of weapons, ammunition, explosive ordnance, and related items
- air cargo delivery, testing of precision guided and non-precision guided cargo and personnel parachute systems, airdrop certification of equipment and ammunition, certification of aircraft for airdrop operations, external transportability testing, and general Soldier systems testing.
- development and performance testing of aircraft armament components and systems

- Testing of computers, software, communications (wireless and wired), networks, data, sensors (radar, electro-optical, infrared, laser, seismic, acoustic, biometrics, hyperspectral, signal detection, etc.), and sensor platforms (aerostats, airships, aircraft, vehicles, towers, etc.).
- Use of Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) includes the GCS, UAV, launch/recovery systems, and other ancillary equipment. UAS testing includes rotary wing, fixed wing, high altitude long endurance, medium altitude long endurance, high speed jet, and transitional vertical take-off and landing airships.
- Combat and automotive systems testing including the testing and evaluation of wheeled and tracked vehicles, direct fire programs, combat vehicle weapons systems and related munitions, target acquisition systems, vehicle components, communication systems, and related items including fire control systems, fuels, lubricants, and other automotive chemical products.
- Counter Improvised Explosive Devices (IED) Testing which involves the use of large complexes of buildings, roads, bridges and overpasses, and other infrastructure that replicate typical urban settings and overseas combat areas. Much of this activity revolves around electronic warfare.
- Training and operational testing where troops use various weapons, munitions, vehicles, aircraft, and systems under tactical conditions and includes both vehicle-mounted training and dismounted training.

YPG and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District has prepared a Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (DPEIS) to assess the potential impacts associated with current and future military activities and operations at YPG. This DPEIS analyzes construction, testing, and training activities and presents the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects of the Proposed Action to continue ongoing activities and to implement new facilities, infrastructure, and programs to meet anticipated future needs and maintain YPG as a multi-purpose installation that serves a broad customer base. The proposed action would also support cross-functional training allowed by the Department of Defense. The DPEIS will support development of a future Real Property Master Plan (RPMP) at YPG by providing a basis for the Visioning Plan and by providing a programmatic framework for the Capital Investment Strategy and the Area Development Plans. The analysis in the EIS also will support the alternatives analysis for the RPMP. Activities anticipated on YPG include construction and demolition of facilities and infrastructure and changes to current types and levels of testing and training. The DPEIS addresses the following types of activities:

- Short-term, well-defined activities at known locations that could be implemented without additional National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) [42 United States Code (U.S.C.) 4321-4347] analysis once a decision is made.
- Short-term, well-defined activities for which locations are not known or for which additional information regarding site-specific implementation must be developed that would receive additional site-specific NEPA analysis prior to project implementation.
- Long-term, less well-defined activities that would occur later in time and would receive additional site-specific NEPA analysis prior to project implementation.

The EIS examines the sum of the activities that will occur or are likely to occur on YPG for the next several years. It is not always possible to predict accurately specific projects in specific years, but the Army is confident about the types of activities that will occur and the general technology trends that will establish the testing and training workloads in coming years; therefore, the Army is adopting a programmatic approach to this analysis to comply with NEPA and set the framework for future tiered documents if required. The analysis focuses on the anticipated impacts of categories of actions on the natural and human environment. Accordingly, the analysis examines military testing activities, military training activities, construction, and demolition, as appropriate for each activity.

The proposed action is to continue military testing, training, construction, and demolition operations as described in Section 2.1 and 2.3.3 of the Draft PEIS. YPG operations also include maintenance of facilities, roads, utilities and other infrastructure. Specific future activities are provided in the table in Appendix 1, and Figures 7, 8 and 9 provide maps that depict the geographic locations of these activities.

There is restricted military airspace over most of YPG. This restricted military airspace also extends over most of the KNWR (Figure 2). The majority of YPG restricted airspace is used for test missions; however, the U.S. Department of Justice operates a Special Use Airspace (R-2309), which restricts military mission access as well as commercial use. Outside of the Department of Justice Special Use Airspace, the restricted airspace on YPG is prioritized for testing and training conducted at the installation. YPG restricted airspace allows testing of UASs and weapons systems, such as mortars and rockets, without risk to non-military aircraft. Secondary priority for use of this restricted airspace is for other military users. This airspace occasionally used for other non-testing/training purposes such as aerial surveys for wildlife, reconnaissance or transportation of people or equipment.

One of the proposed activities addressed in the EIS is an expansion of the existing 110,000 acres of impact areas on the Kofa Range by 24,309 acres. Much of this expansion would occur in the King Valley region which is contiguous with Sonoran pronghorn habitat on the KNWR. The purpose of expansion of these impact areas is to add flexibility for target locations and reduce scheduling conflicts between firing programs. Expansion is also intended to minimize the likelihood that any munitions land outside of an impact area.

Description of Listed Species

Sonoran Pronghorn (*Antilocapra americana sonoriensis*) is a subspecies of the American pronghorn. The species exhibits conspicuous white areas on the rump, face, and belly, and also white bands on the throat. The hooves have 2 toes and lack the dewclaw that is common to most ungulates. Males are distinguished from females by the presence of pronged horns and a black cheek patch. The Sonoran pronghorn is the smallest subspecies of pronghorn with an average height of 3 feet and weight between 75 and 130 lbs. It is also generally paler in coloration than the other subspecies. (AZGFD HDMS)

The Sonoran pronghorn was originally listed as threatened with extinction under the Endangered Species Preservation Act of 1966 on February 24, 1967. With the passage of the ESA, this subspecies was listed as endangered. The FWS designated a nonessential experimental population of Sonoran pronghorn in the region between Interstate 8 and 10.

No designated critical habitat has been established for Sonoran pronghorn.

Life History

Sonoran pronghorn inhabit one of the hottest and driest portions of the Sonoran Desert. They forage on a large variety of perennial and annual plant species (Hughes and Smith 1990, Hervert *et al.* 1997b, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1998). During drought years, Hughes and Smith (1990) reported cacti were the major dietary component (44 percent). Consumption of cacti, especially chain fruit cholla (*Cylindropuntia fulgida*, Pinkava 1999), provides a source of water during hot, dry conditions (Hervert *et al.* 1997b). Other important plant species in the diet of the pronghorn include carelessnessweed (*Amaranthus palmeri*), ragweed (*Ambrosia* sp.), locoweed (*Astragalus* sp.), brome (*Bromus* sp.), and broom snakeweed (*Gutierrezia sarothrae*) (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1998). Pronghorn will move in response to spatial limitations in forage availability (Hervert *et al.* 1997a). Water intake from forage is not adequate to meet minimum water requirements (Fox *et al.* 2000), hence pronghorn need and readily use both natural and artificial water sources (Morgart *et al.* 2005).

Sonoran pronghorn rut during July-September, and does have been observed with newborn fawns from February through May. Parturition corresponds with annual spring forage abundance. Fawning has not yet been documented for the newly released pronghorn on KNWR. Does usually have twins, and fawns suckle for about two months. Does gather with fawns, and the fawns sometimes form nursery groups (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1998). Sonoran pronghorn form small herds of up to 21 animals (Wright and deVos 1986).

Species Habitat and Occurrence

Historic records show the range of Sonoran Pronghorn ranged northward near present day Interstate 10 south to Keno Bay and Hermosillo, Sonora Mexico. It ranged west to the Imperial Valley, California and Baja California, Mexico. It also ranged East to the Baboquivari Mountains and the Santa Cruz river in Arizona (Figure 3). In the 1800s, habitat alteration due to fencing and livestock, coupled with unregulated hunting and drought lead to massive declines in pronghorn (USFWS 2010).

The current distribution of Sonoran pronghorn encompasses about 4,210 square miles, or about 7.6 percent of its historic range. The current distribution includes about 2,750 square miles in the United States and another 1,460 square miles in Mexico. In the U.S., Sonoran pronghorn are known to inhabit the region southeast of YPG on Barry M. Goldwater Range (BMGR), Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge (CPNWR), Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument and northwestern Sonora Mexico. The closest natural population of Sonoran pronghorn is on the BMGR, which is across I-8 and approximately 10 miles south of YPG. The interstate highway and the extensive farming along the Gila River Valley effectively prevent movement of this population onto YPG. The FWS maintains semi-captive breeding pens for Sonoran pronghorn in KNWR and CPNWR. The FWS released pronghorn from these pens into King Valley on KNWR in 2013 and 2014. Some of these pronghorn are observed periodically on the east Kofa range on YPG.

Flat to rolling topography is the preferred habitat for the species, which includes broad intermountain alluvial valleys with creosote bush-bursage and paloverde-mixed cacti associations (YPG, 2012). Within its current range, the Sonoran pronghorn generally prefers creosote bush-bursage, paloverde-mixed cacti, and ephemeral wash habitats. According to a model by USFWS, more than 55 percent of YPG (approximately 757 square miles) is potentially suitable habitat for this species (USFWS, 2009). Generally, bajadas are fawning areas and sandy dune areas provide food on a seasonal basis. Cacti, forbs, and shrubs are important food plants for the Sonoran pronghorns and the fruit of chain-fruit cholla (*Cylindropuntia fulgida*) can be consumed to provide a water source (USFWS, 2009).

In 2010 the FWS designated the Sonoran pronghorn as a nonessential experimental population, as defined under section 10(j) of the ESA within a portion of their historic range. This area is located north of Interstate 8 and south of Interstate 10 and encompasses all of YPG (USFWS 2011). Nine pronghorn were released into the KNWR in the King Valley area by the FWS in January 2013 in an attempt to establish additional Sonoran pronghorn populations within this portion of its historic range. From the 2013 release, 3 pronghorn died, 2 returned to the release pen, and 1 is unaccounted for (Bright 2013). Three of the remaining pronghorns are observed regularly on the eastern portion of the Kofa range on YPG. In January 2014, 23 additional pronghorn were released onto KNWR within King Valley.

The pronghorn on YPG have been observed using a man-made pond (SWTR pond) on the eastern portion of the Kofa range which is located toward the southern end of King Valley. This pond is maintained to supply water for dust suppression or construction and maintenance activities on YPG. It is not fenced and is frequented by deer, horses, coyotes and other wildlife. Camera traps detected the pronghorn using this facility multiple times in June, August and September of 2013. No observations of pronghorn occurred in

July and October 2013 due to camera failures. Normal dispersal of the nonessential experimental population of Sonoran pronghorn will likely result in additional animals occurring on YPG. As their population increases so will pronghorn encounters on YPG.

Explanation of Effects

The effects of YPG activities on pronghorn on KNWR can be separated into effects of visual and audio disturbance, munitions impacts, and wildfire.

Overview- Visual and Audio Effects

It has been well documented that human presence in wildlands can disturb animals, causing them to unnecessarily expend energy avoiding people, thereby potentially reducing reproductive success (e.g., Manville 1983, van Dyke et al. 1986, Goodrich & Berger 1994, Primm 1996; as cited by Kerley et al. 2002) or increasing the likelihood of fatal encounters with humans (Kasworm & Manley 1990, Saberwal et al. 1994, Khramtsov 1995, Mattson et al. 1996; as cited by Kerley et al. 2002). Range abandonment has been documented in response to human disturbance (Jorgenson 1988), and investigators have shown that heart rate increases in wildlife in response to auditory or visual disturbance in the absence of overt behavioral changes (Thompson et al. 1968, Cherkovich and Tatoyan 1973, Moen et al. 1978).

Studies of captive pronghorn, other than the Sonoran subspecies, have shown that they are sensitive to disturbance such as human presence and vehicular noise. Human traffic, such as a person walking or running past pronghorn in an enclosed pen, a motorcycle driving past, a truck driving past, a truck blowing its horn while driving past, or a person entering a holding pen, caused an increased heart-rate response in American pronghorn in half-acre holding pens (Workman et al. 1992). The highest heart rates occurred in female pronghorn in response to a person entering a holding pen, or a truck driving past while sounding the horn. The lowest heart rates occurred when a motorcycle or truck was driven past their pen. Pronghorn were more sensitive to helicopters, particularly those flying at low levels or hovering, than fixed wing aircraft. Luz and Smith (1976) observed pronghorn reactions to overhead helicopter flights which suggested mild disturbance (muscle tensing and interruption of grazing) by helicopter noise levels at approximately 60 dBA and strong reaction (running) at approximately 77 dBA.

A pronghorn can canter effortlessly at 25 mph, gallop without straining at 44 mph, and run flat out at speeds of 55-62 mph (Byers 1997). During an aerial reconnaissance, one herd of Sonoran pronghorn was observed 12 miles away from the initial observation location 1.5 hours later (Wright and deVos 1986). Hughes and Smith (1990) found that Sonoran pronghorn immediately ran 1,310-1,650 feet from a vehicle, and that military low-level flights (<500 feet AGL) over three pronghorn caused them to move about 330 feet from their original location. Krausman et al. (2001, 2004) examined effects of military aircraft and ground-based activities on Sonoran pronghorn at the North and South Tactical Ranges (TACs) on the BMGR and concluded that military activities, both ground-based and aerial, were associated with some changes in behavior (e.g., from standing to trotting or running, or bedded to standing) but the authors found that the movements in response to military activities were not distinguishable from movements by control animals that were not exposed to military activities. They concluded that these changes were not likely to be detrimental to the animals. However, sightings of Sonoran pronghorn were biased towards disturbed habitats on the TACs and other areas of military activities, which also corresponded to areas of favorable ephemeral forage production (Krausman et al. 2005a). No conclusions could be drawn about effects of military activities on fawns due to poor fawn productivity during the Krausman et al. (2001 and 2004) study. Krausman et al. (2001 and 2004) did not address the pronghorn's response to low-level helicopter flights.

During times of drought, disturbances that cause pronghorn to startle and run would energetically have a more significant effect. Such energetic expenditures, particularly during times of stress, may lead to lower reproductive output and/or survival of individual animals (Geist 1971). Landon et al. (2003) evaluated whether Sonoran pronghorn used areas, as defined by noise levels produced by military aircraft, in proportion to their availability on the BMGR. In general, they found that Sonoran pronghorn used the lowest noise level area more than the higher noise level areas. However, as Krausman et al. (2005a) point out, they did not consider habitat in their analysis. Krausman et al. (2005a) examined Sonoran pronghorn habitat use on landscapes disturbed by military activities. Although they did not consider noise levels in their analysis, they found that pronghorn on North TAC and South TAC used areas that are continually disturbed by military activities (i.e., mock airfields, high-explosive hills, and other targets) more than expected by chance. They conclude that this is likely because these disturbed areas provide favorable forage.

Overview-Munitions Effects

Direct death or injury to pronghorn could occur as a result of ordnance deliveries, live rounds, or pronghorn encountering unexploded ordnance on YPG. All munitions firing or ordnance deliveries would occur on YPG and not within KNWR. The impact area boundary within potential pronghorn habitat is located approximately 1 kilometer south of the KNWR boundary. YPG carefully plans each shot on the range with consideration of the gun position, from which ordnance is fired, to the target or impact area. Test directors take into account the capabilities and past performance of the ordnance and blast radius to develop a surface-danger-zone in-which the munitions could inadvertently land. Range control coordinates these firing programs to ensure that the surface danger-zones remain on YPG or within previously established buffer zones. The likelihood of ordnance landing within the refuge is extremely low.

BMGR is an active military installation used by the United States Air Force and Marine Corps which is located south of YPG. The BMGR has a long history of military activity including munitions impacts across numerous targets in pronghorn habitat. On BMGR, vegetation or soil disturbance has been shown to increase forage and lengthen the green-up period for forage plants on in some areas (Hervert personal communication 2014). This, as well as water collecting in bomb craters on BMGR may account for pronghorn frequenting disturbed areas, including targets on the range. While the occurrence of deep craters (enough to hold water) is not common on YPG, there is soil and vegetation disturbance from ordnance impacts, target construction, fires and temporary gun positions. Resulting changes to vegetation structure may improve forage quality for pronghorn at times; however, reduction in cover may make lambs more susceptible to predation (Hervert pers comm 2014).

Based on Krausman (2005) no effects were detected to the hearing ability of mule deer living near high ordnance delivery activities at ETAC on BMGR. We do not anticipate the hearing of Sonoran pronghorn will be greatly affected on YPG or KNWR.

Overview-Fire Effects

Firing and detonation of ordnance including high explosives, illumination and incendiary rounds present a danger of fire ignition of near gun positions and impact areas. Fire risk varies by ammunition type and how it is used (e.g. air bursts vs. ground). Construction or maintenance activities such as welding or cutting steel may also generate sparks and present an ignition source. Natural ignition sources such as lightning may also result in fire.

Fire risk on YPG varies greatly depending on precipitation (YPG 2012). Fuels modeling conducted by Kaya and Associates (2012) indicated that during typical dry years, the areas with the highest fuel loading are mesquite bosques and areas that contain creosote mixed with trees such as ironwood and paloverde. During wet periods the highest loading tends to be located in floodplains due to precipitation running

from the mountain highlands and other areas with higher elevations and eventually settling into the low elevation floodplains (Kaya 2012). Large seasonal grasses or other annual vegetation quickly emerges and subsequently dries out, leaving fuel for wildfire.

Most fires on YPG are very small and isolated due to the sparse nature of fuels in this region. From 2003 to present, there were an estimated 26 fire starts on YPG and a total of 3,170 acres burned on YPG. Of that total, 3,000 acres was from 1 event, the King Valley Fire (Bailey 2014). The King Valley Fire is the only major documented fire originating on YPG in over 70 years of military testing and training activities.

The winter and spring of 2004/2005 were very wet, resulting in some of the highest productivity of cool season annual plants in recent memory. As these annual plants dried out, they created fuel for wildfire (USFWS 2010). In September 2005, the King Valley Fire ignited due to munitions impact on YPG. The fire burned 3,000 acres on YPG and 26,000 acres on KNWR for a total of about 29,000 acres. The King Valley Fire was carried by dry annual plants left from the wet winter in, particular, dried Indian wheat (*Plantago insularis*) and Mediterranean grass (*Schismus barbatus*) along with other species. Cured herbaceous vegetation carried the fire over the terraces between the ephemeral washes and also along the washes where it provided ladder fuels to the denser woody vegetation (USFWS 2006).

Most Sonoran Desert trees, shrubs, and cacti are poorly adapted to fire (Brown and Minnich 1986, Schwalbe *et al.* 2000, Alford and Brock 2002). If areas burn repeatedly, permanent changes are likely in the flora. Even in the best scenario it is likely to be many years before trees once again provide thermal cover in wash communities and cholla recover to a point that they are useful forage plants for pronghorn. Luke AFB noted that, from 2007 to 2010 pronghorn were attracted to the burned areas, which often supported better growth of annual plants and forbs than adjacent unburned areas (USFWS 2010). However, in the long term and if these areas continue to burn, removal of thermal cover (trees) and cholla, which they depend on in drought, would likely adversely affect pronghorn and probably limit the use of these areas to wetter and cooler periods and seasons.

While wildfire can have an adverse affect to Sonoran pronghorn, the occurrence of large wildfires spreading to the KNWR are very rare. This type of fire event is only made possible by exceptional amounts of precipitation. Furthermore, YPG has adopted more effective communication protocols in responding to fires to further reduce their potential spread.

Impacts to Pronghorn on YPG (Outside KNWR)

The nonessential experimental population, released on KNWR, will likely continue to move onto portions of YPG concurrent with implementation of Proposed Action components. Expanded testing and training activities would be ongoing and the experimental population of Sonoran pronghorn would likely be affected both directly and indirectly by human presence on the range, vehicle traffic, noise from munitions firing and impact, and aircraft noise.

Direct impacts to Pronghorn on YPG may include vehicle strikes along roads, becoming tangled in communication wire or fencing, or being injured by running into infrastructure such as buildings, towers trenches etc. Animals could also be injured or killed by munitions strike or explosions from live ordinance on the ground.

Indirect impacts could include visual or auditory disturbance by human activity or munitions testing. These disturbances could affect habitat utilization by occasionally frightening pronghorn from food or

water sources. These impacts to behavior can impact the nutrition and body condition of the animals and could reduce survival rates, particularly in times of drought.

Other indirect impacts may include habitat alteration due to fire. If wildfires occur due to YPG activities, short term impacts from loss of foraging area could occur. However long-term impacts may be beneficial in that forage quality may be enhanced. Reductions density of large perennial plants due to wildfire may be favored by pronghorn; however, the reduction in cover may increase fawn mortality due to predators (Hervert pers comm. 2014)

Impacts to Pronghorn on KNWR

Impacts to pronghorn from YPG activities on KNWR include indirect impacts from visual and auditory disturbance by aircraft flying over the refuge, munitions being detonated near the refuge boundary, or human presence near the boundary of the refuge. Wildfire may also directly or indirectly affect pronghorn on the refuge in the event that wildfire encroached from YPG onto the refuge.

YPG conducts flights over the refuge daily within airspace R-2307, R-2308A, R-2308b, and R-2308C. Almost all of the military use of this airspace occurs between 8,000 and 32,000 ft above ground level (AGL) (Franklin 2013). The lower limit to YPG airspace above the refuge is 1,500 feet AGL, however, the YPG Operational Noise Management Plan (ONMP) identifies KNWR and Imperial National Wildlife Refuge (INWR) as areas where pilots are recommended to remain at least 2,000 feet AGL. Aircraft would not be hovering in one area, but passing by, which would reduce disturbance. Due to the high altitudes of YPG aircraft above the refuge, pronghorn reactions are unlikely to be significant.

There have been past incidents of munitions being fired over KNWR, and there were instances where munitions actually landed on the refuge. These incidents have been reviewed by YPG and the practice of firing over the refuge has been discontinued. While YPG does not fire into or over the KNWR, the estimated safety fans do occasionally cross the boundary to the southwest of King Valley, outside of pronghorn habitat. The algorithm used to establish the dimensions for the safety fan uses a 1/1,000,000 probability of munitions landing outside the fan. Instances of munitions landing outside the fan or on the refuge are extremely rare (YPG Range Control). Due to the locations of the targets and gun positions as well as safety planning for firing programs, it is highly unlikely that pronghorn would be directly injured or killed by munitions.

Noise from munitions fired on YPG can be heard off the installation but the intensity of the sound decreases with distance. The noise contour figures from the Installation Operational Noise Management Plan indicate that the portion of KNWR that is suitable habitat for Sonoran Pronghorn (i.e. King Valley) is located outside the 57-63 CDNL contour (Figure 6). This means that the magnitude of sound experienced by any pronghorn on the refuge would be less than 57 decibels for most actual explosions within the impact area on YPG. For comparison, normal conversation between two people three feet apart is approximately 60-65dB. Explosions from munitions testing and training on YPG in the Castle Dome Mountains along the western and southern boundary of KNWR would be audible to pronghorn in portions of the area they may occupy but would likely not be heard in the vicinity of the breeding pens (USFWS, 2009). Because munitions testing and training is relatively constant in this area, the noise from these events would likely be perceived as part of the background noise and would not affect pronghorn except in immediate proximity to a detonation.

Wildfire presents the most substantial threat to Sonoran Pronghorn on KNWR. Fires may affect vegetation composition, cover and forage quality. Wildfire may temporarily reduce forage for pronghorn but over the long term provide increases in annual forbs and lengthen the green-up period (Hervert pers.

Comm. 2014). Wildfire may present danger to lambs if they are too young to flee the oncoming fire. While wildfire can have an adverse affect to Sonoran pronghorn, the occurrence of large wildfires spreading to the KNWR are very rare. This type of fire event is only made possible by exceptional amounts of precipitation and resulting vegetation growth. Furthermore, YPG has adopted more effective communication protocols in responding to fires in hopes to further reduce their spread.

Cumulative Effects

Cumulative effects are those effects of future nonfederal (i.e., state, tribal, local, or private) actions that are reasonably certain to occur in the project area. Future federal actions unrelated to the proposed project are not considered here because they require separate consultation pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (USFWS and National Marine Fisheries Service 1998).

The assessment of cumulative impacts for Sonoran pronghorn includes lands north of Interstate 8 and South of interstate 10

Most lands within the current range of the Sonoran pronghorn are managed by Federal agencies, and as such, any of their actions would be subject to Section 7 consultation. Within the current SPH range there are small parcels of State lands and private lands near the towns of Ajo and Why, AZ, north of the BMGR from Dateland, AZ to SR 85, and from the Mohawk Mountains to Tacna, AZ. Continuing rural and agricultural development, recreation, vehicle use, grazing, and other activities on private and State lands adversely affect pronghorn and their habitat. These activities on State and private lands and along the Mexican border and the effects of these activities are expected to continue into the foreseeable future

Conservation Measures

- Notify USFWS and AGFD within three working days if Sonoran pronghorn are observed on YPG that are injured, sick or dead.
- Coordinate range access for FWS and AZGFD as appropriate for capture of sick or injured pronghorn as well as recovery of dead individuals if necessary. Coordination will involve adherence to range safety and security procedures.
- Avoid placing activities in proximity to artificial water sources to the extent such action is consistent with the military mission.
- YPG will adhere to the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding between the KNWR, INWR, BLM, and YPG which provides procedures and guidance for cooperation and collaboration on wildland fire issues. This includes notifying interagency dispatch of any wildfire on YPG lands. (Appendix 2)
- In the event future actions on YPG have the potential to affect Sonoran pronghorn on KNWR, YPG will consult with the Fish and Wildlife Service as appropriate.

Effect Determination

Section 10 (j) of the ESA states that for purposes of section 7 consultation, nonessential experimental populations must be treated as proposed species unless they are located on a National Wildlife Refuge, in which case they must be treated as a threatened species. 50 CFR part 402.10 requires federal agencies to confer with the FWS on activities that may jeopardize proposed species. Consultation is required for any federal action that may affect a listed species.

The 10 (j) nonessential experimental population designation for the Sonoran pronghorn results in differing levels of consultation for on and off national wildlife refuge lands. For this reason, YPG is making separate determinations of affects on YPG and on Kofa National Wildlife Refuge.

Critical habitat has not been designated for Sonoran pronghorn and since this is a nonessential experimental population, designation of critical habitat on YPG or KNWR is unlikely.

Sonoran Pronghorn on YPG

Based on the analysis in this Biological Evaluation, YPG makes the determination **May affect, and Likely to Adversely Affect** Sonoran pronghorn on YPG. This determination is based on human disturbance, habitat modification, and the remote possibility of injury or mortality due to munitions delivery, collision with vehicles, or increased vulnerability to predation.

YPG determines the proposed action is **Not Likely to Jeopardize** the continued existence of Sonoran pronghorn. This population is considered nonessential experimental under 10(j) of the ESA, and adverse impacts to individuals within this population would not appreciably reduce the likelihood of the recovery of the Sonoran Pronghorn. Furthermore, impacts from YPG activities would be contained to the action area and cannot effect other populations of pronghorn at CPNWR, BMGR, or Mexico. YPG seeks FWS concurrence with this determination.

Sonoran Pronghorn on KNWR.

YPG makes the determination **May affect, Likely to Adversely Affect** the Sonoran pronghorn on KNWR due to very intermittent visual and auditory disturbance to animals near the installation boundary and the very low potential of wildfire spreading onto the refuge and temporarily reducing forage and cover. YPG requests initiation of Formal consultation under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.

The magnitude and intensity of impacts of YPG activities on KNWR are much lower than that on YPG. Any effect to pronghorn on the refuge would be limited to intermittent visual and auditory disturbance to animals that are located near the boundary. The magnitude of this disturbance would be further reduced by distance to the actual activity. Flights over the refuge are conducted at 1,500 feet or above and in most cases over 8,000 feet; reducing the auditory and visual impacts to pronghorn as well. Firing programs are not firing over pronghorn habitat on the refuge which reduces the likelihood of munitions landing in the refuge.

Wildfire poses a potential risk to Sonoran pronghorn habitat on KNWR. A short term adverse affect would be temporary displacement of pronghorn from forage in burned areas. Long term impacts could include reduction in perennial vegetation that provides forage and cover as well as increased predation to fawns due to the lack of cover. The fuel loading in this area of the Sonoran Desert is typically low, and the occurrences of wildfires spreading onto KNWR are very rare. With increased rainfall, increased fuel loading and fire risk have been observed; however, a large wildfire event is only made possible by exceptional amounts of precipitation and the long term trend in the desert southwest is less rainfall. Furthermore, YPG has adopted more effective communication protocols in responding to fires to further reduce their potential spread by ensuring a faster response by firefighting resources.

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Figure 1. Map of YPG

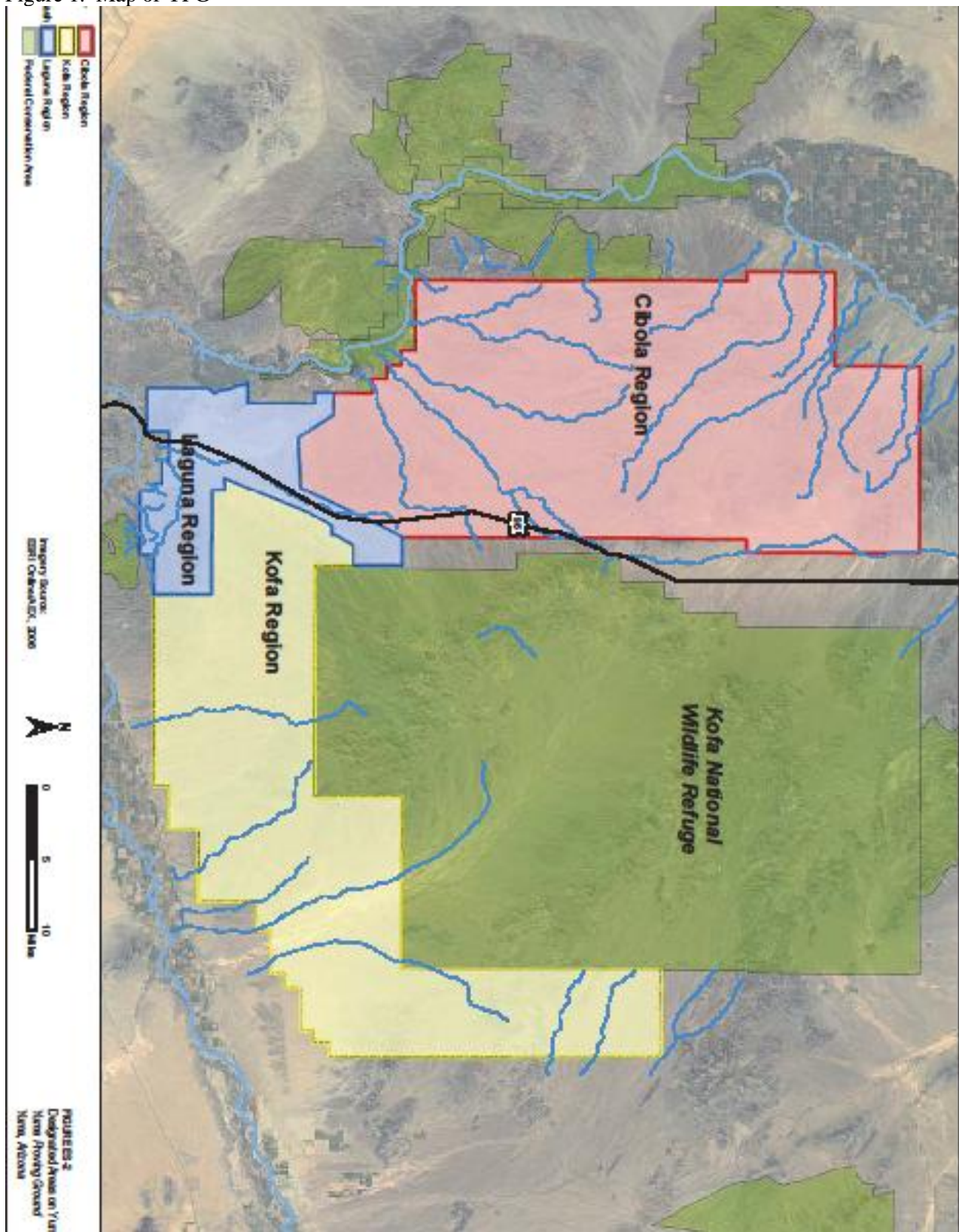
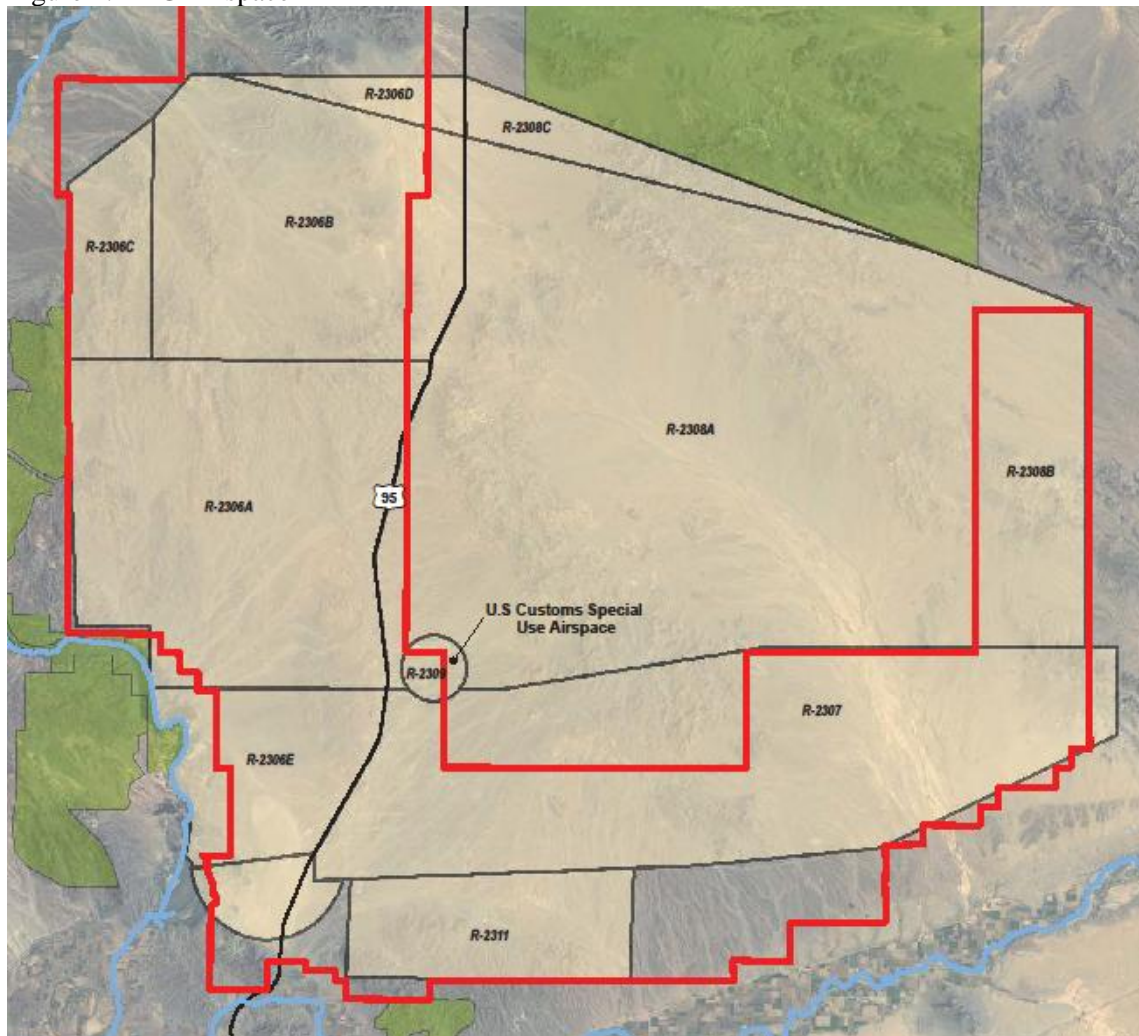


Figure 2. YPG Airspace



Description of Airspace

R-2306A	Covers the southern part of the Cibola Region from the surface to 80,000 ft
R-2306B	North of R-2306A in the Cibola Region, from the surface to 80,000 ft
R-2306C	West of R-3206B in the Cibola Region, from the surface to 17,000 ft
R-2306D	North of R-2306B in the Cibola Region, from the surface to 23,000 ft
R-2306E	South of R-2306A in the Cibola and Laguna Regions, from the surface to 80,000 ft
R2307	Laguna and Kofa Regions west of US 95 and north of Pole Line Road, from the surface to unlimited. Also includes the southern portion of the Kofa NWR
R2308A	Kofa NWR from 1,500 ft above ground level (AGL) to 80,000 ft
R2308B	West of R-2308A in East Arm, from the surface to 80,000 ft
R2308C	North of R-2308A in Kofa NWR from 1,500 ft AGL to 23,000 ft
R-2309	Department of Justice Special Use Airspace. 1.5-mile radius from the surface to 15,000 ft,north of CDH
R-2311	Eastern Kofa Region south of Pole Line Road from the surface to 3,500 ft
R-2306-F	Proposed at Laguna Airfield from the surface to 3,500 ft

While some airspace in R2307 is from the surface, the YPG Installation Operational Noise Management Plan recommends aerial operations be conducted above 2,000 feet AGL over Kofa National Wildlife Refuge.

Figure 3. Map of the historic and current ranges of the Sonoran pronghorn.

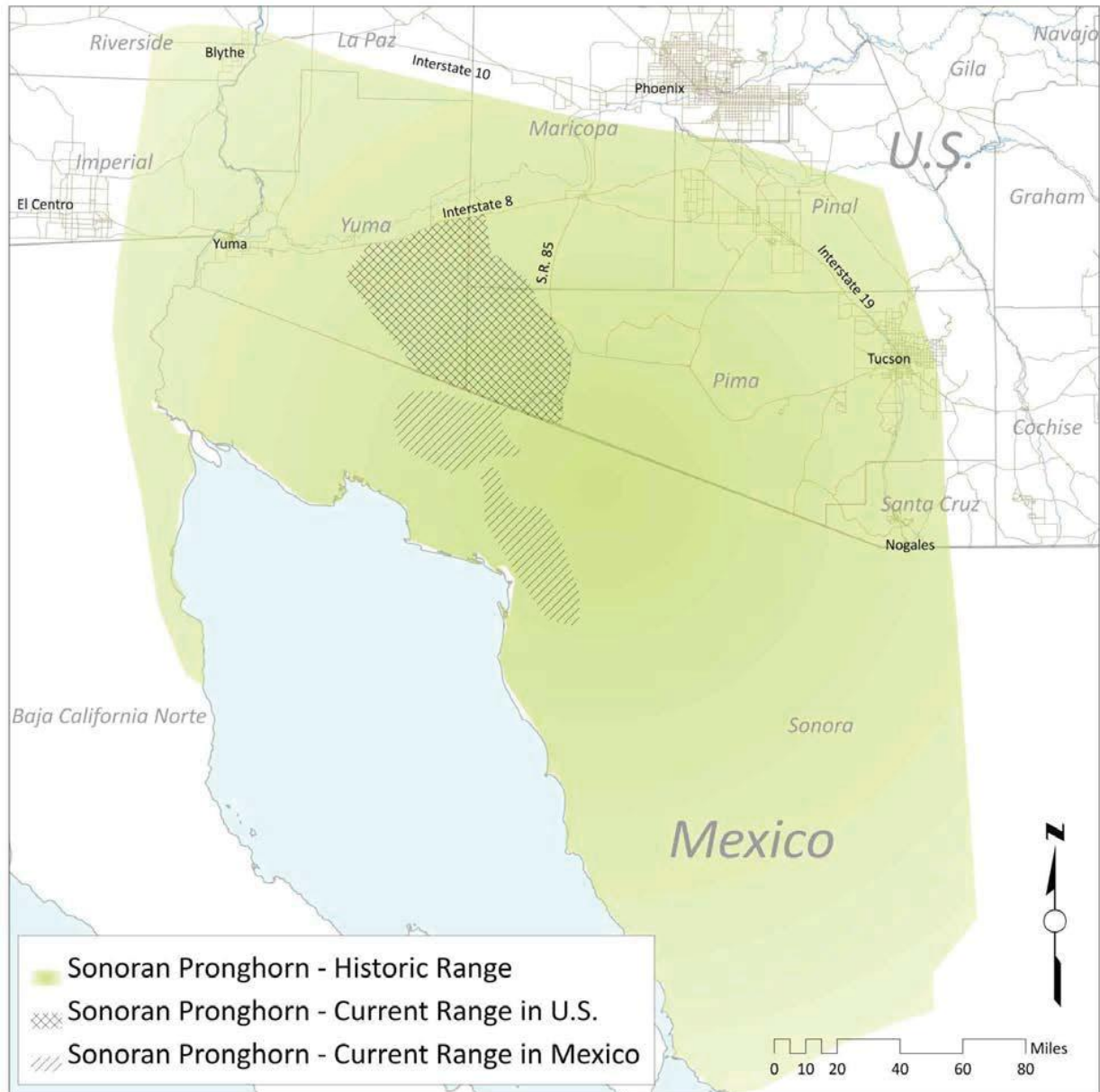


Figure 4. 10(j) Nonessential Experimental Population Area

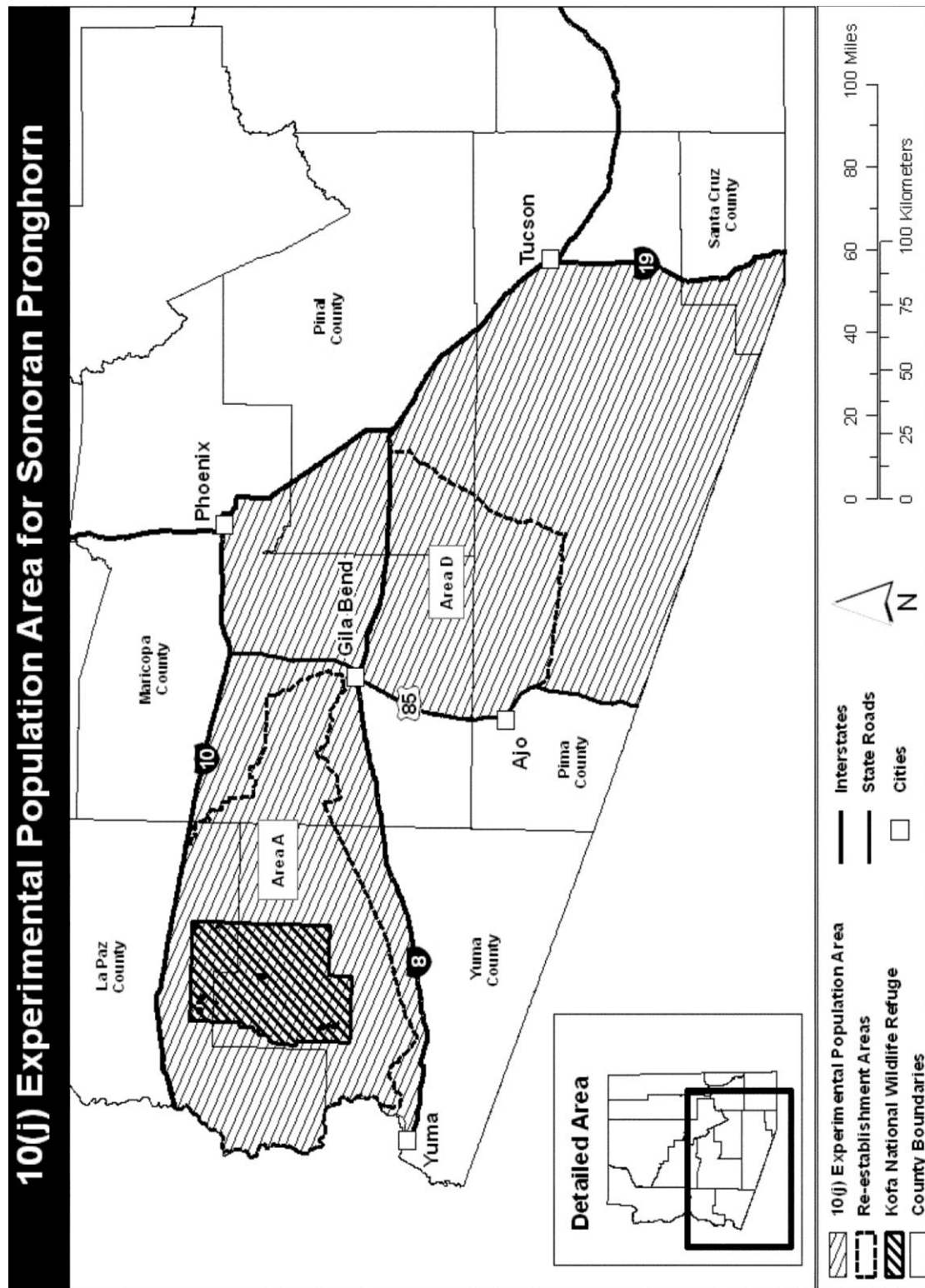


Figure 5. Pronghorn Locations. The extent of the Kofa pronghorn range is based on telemetry data and is likely to change as pronghorn continue to disburse and new data comes in.

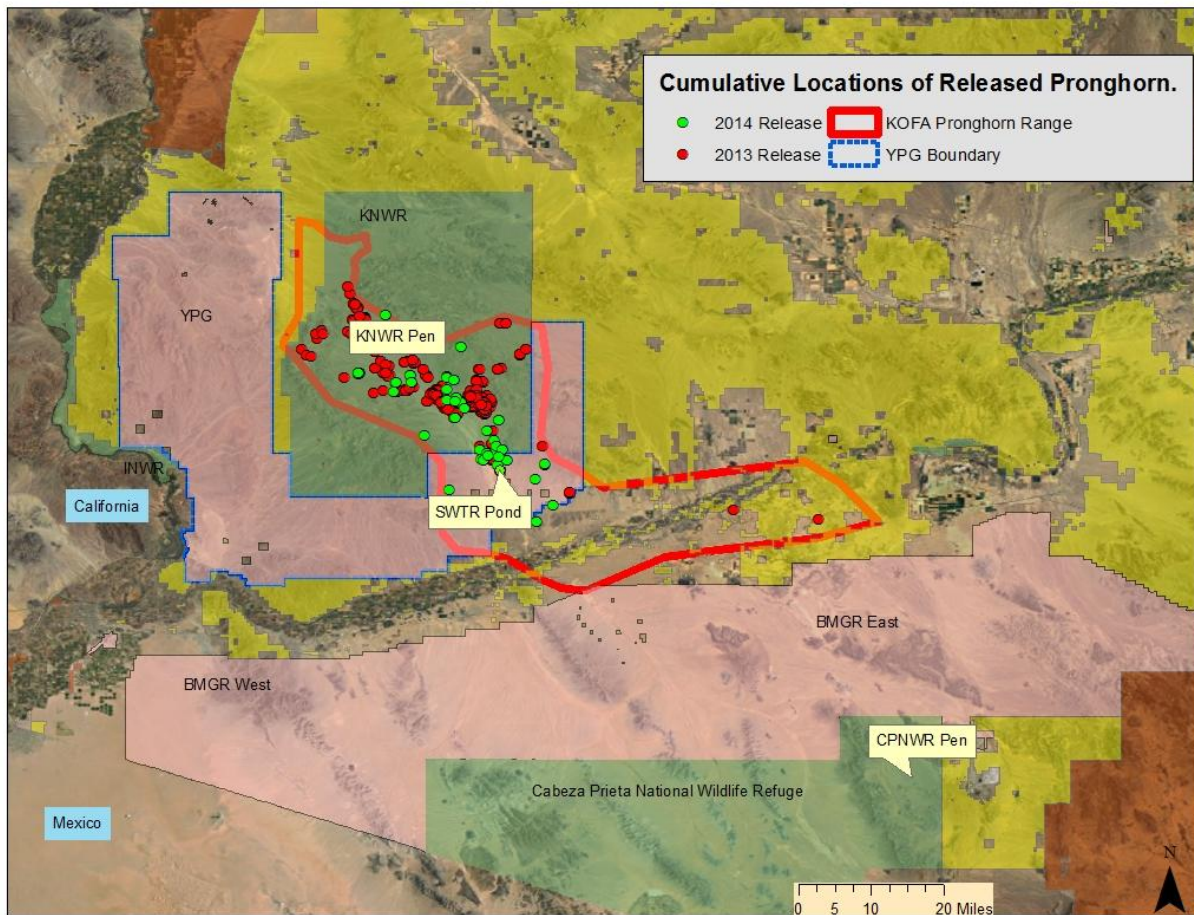


Figure 6. Large Caliber Noise Contour from the YPG Operational Noise Management Plan

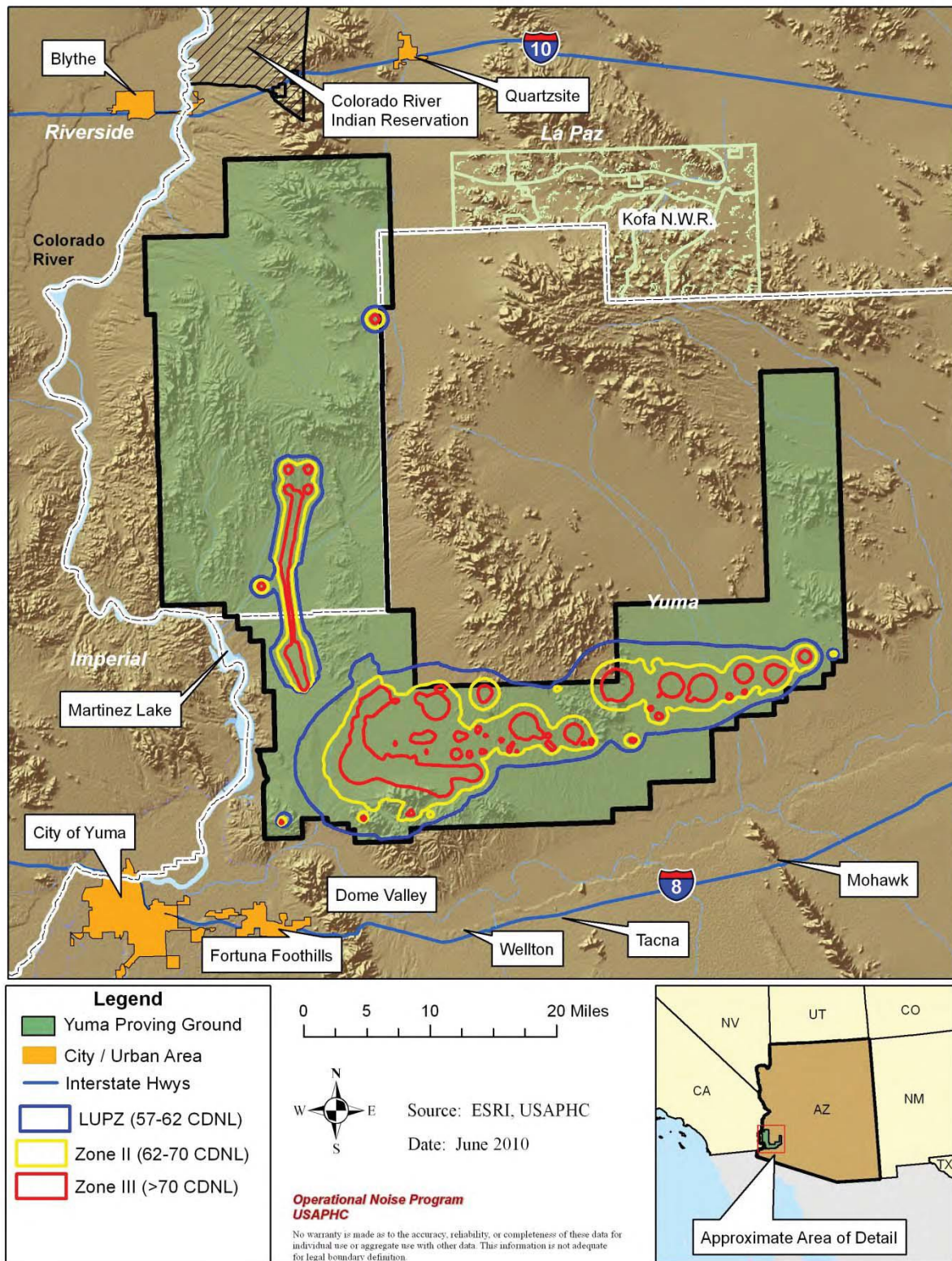
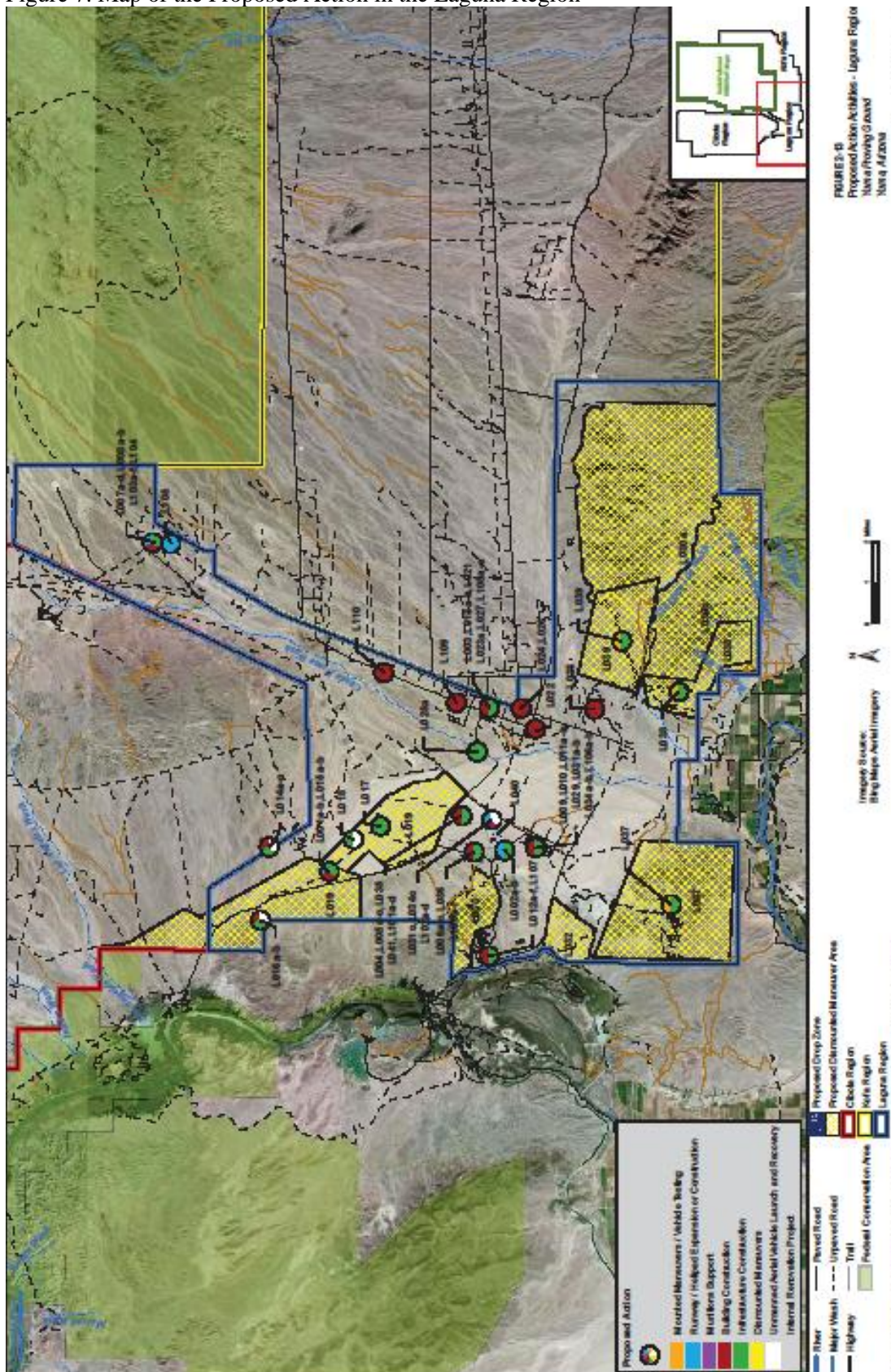


Figure 7. Map of the Proposed Action in the Laguna Region



Proposed Action

- Mounted Maneuvers / Vehicle Testing
- Runway / Helipad Expansion or Construction
- Munition Support
- Building Construction
- Infrastructure Construction
- Dismounted Maneuvers
- Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Launch and Recovery
- Internal Restoration Project

Impact Areas

- BRAC Sites
- TDZs

Proposed Impact Area

- Proposed Impact Area (High Explosive)
- Proposed Impact Area (Inert)
- Existing Impact Area (High Explosive)
- Proposed Drop Zone
- Proposed Dismounted Maneuver Area

Geographic Features

- River
- Major Wash
- Highway
- Paved Road
- Unpaved Road
- Trail
- Federal Conservation Area
- Cibola Region
- Kofa Region
- Laguna Region

Scale and Orientation

Scale: 0 to 4 miles

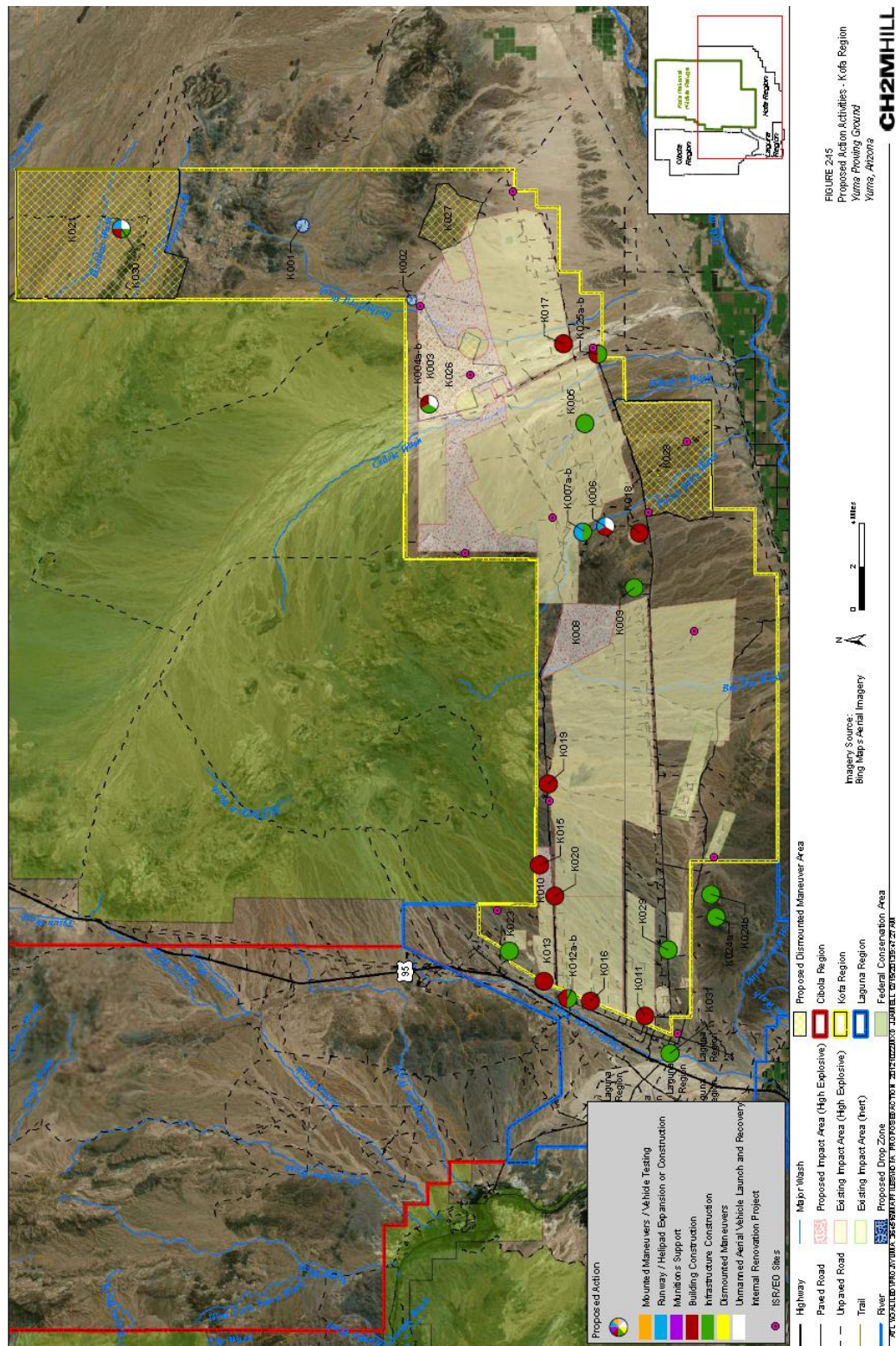
North Arrow

Inset Map

Inset map showing the location of the Cibola Region within the larger context of the Yuma Proving Ground, including the Colorado River, Colorado Desert, and Colorado Plateau.

Figure 3-14 Proposed Action Activities - Cibola Region

Figure 9. Map of the Proposed Action in the Kofa Region (note the boundary of the impact area was reduced from what was shown in the draft EIS).



Appendix 1. Table of Proposed Action Activities

TABLE 2-1

Proposed Action Activities Analyzed in Detail – Laguna Region
Yuma Proving Ground

Identifier	Proposed Activities ^a	Potential Impacts ^{b, c}
L001-a	Construct building, concrete pad, shade structure, and solar lights at K-9 Village.	Minor construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance at K-9 Village (building 900 square feet [ft ²], concrete pad 40,000 ft ² , shade structure 400 ft ²). Minor construction-related air emissions. Potential for increased stormwater runoff from increased impervious area. Work within existing urban combat training area would have temporary displacement of nearby wildlife with no population-level impacts. Safety benefit from shade to reduce heat stress.
L002-a	Construct Runway 18/36 extension, and realign Barranca Road at LAAF.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance (2,000-ft runway extension 2.75 ac, realignment of Barranca Road 3.37 ac). Minor construction-related air emissions. Temporary disruption of on-post traffic. Potential for increased stormwater runoff from increased impervious area. Work within this high human activity area would have temporary displacement of nearby wildlife with no population-level impacts.
L003	Construct outdoor eating area at the Roadrunner Café.	Minor construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance (840 ft ²). Minor construction-related air emissions. Potential for increased stormwater runoff from increased impervious area.
L004	Construct office building next to Building 2968.	Construction-related soil disturbance in previously disturbed area (office building 4,000 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Potential for increased stormwater runoff from increased impervious area. Cantonment area work would not have detectable impacts on wildlife.
L005	L005-a: Construct medium and large storage buildings. L005-b: Construct 2 office buildings. L005-c: Construct Air Delivery Guided Test Facility next to Building 2970.	Construction-related soil disturbance in previously disturbed area (medium storage building 7,200 ft ² , large storage building 9,600 ft ² , 2 office buildings totaling 4,000 ft ² , and Air Delivery Guided Test Facility 35,900 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.
L006	L006-a: Construct Flight Detachment Maintenance Building. L006-b: Construct Wild Horse Café. L006-c: Construct antiterrorism/force protection (AT/FP) parking improvements.	Construction-related soil disturbance in previously disturbed area (Flight Detachment Maintenance Building 18,000 ft ² , Wild Horse Café 3,200 ft ² , and parking improvements 101,560 ft ² in previously disturbed area). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.

TABLE 2-1
Proposed Action Activities Analyzed in Detail – Laguna Region
Yuma Proving Ground

Identifier	Proposed Activities ^a	Potential Impacts ^{b, c}
L007	L007-a: Construct helicopter parking at CDH. L007-b: Construct UAS parking, UAS storage facility, and UAS maintenance hangar at CDH. L007-c: Construct privately owned vehicle (POV) parking at CDH. L007-d: Relocate C-130 CALA to CDH.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance (helicopter and UAS parking 61,000 ft ² , POV parking 77,000 ft ² , UAS storage facility 14,400 ft ² , UAS maintenance hangar 43,500 ft ² , C-130 CALA relocation 240,200 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.
L008-a	Construct access control point (ACP) at CDH.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance (improved ACP 19,500 ft ²). Construction-related emissions.
L009	Construct warehouse at YTC.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance (warehouse 7,750 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.
L010	Construct Instrumentation Development Facility at YTC.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance (Instrumentation Development Facility 32,500 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.
L011	L011-a: Construct tracked vehicle trail at YTC. L011-b: Construct office at YTC.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance (tracked vehicle trail 45,000 ft ² , office 400 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.
L012	L012-a: Construct hotel at the MAA. L012-b: Construct Emergency Operations Center (EOC) at MAA. L012-c: Construct addition to youth services center at MAA. L012-d: Construct ACP improvements at MAA. L012-e: Construct child development center for school-aged services at MAA. L012-f: Construct outdoor eating area at Coyote Lanes bowling alley.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance (hotel 15,000 ft ² , EOC 6,600 ft ² , youth services center 16,150 ft ² , and ACP improvements 19,500 ft ² , child development center 59,261 ft ² , outdoor eating area 3,169 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.
L013-a	L013-a: Construct additional fencing and support facilities at the Threat Systems and Target Simulations Buildings 3572 and 3574.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance (fencing 1,420 ft ² , support facilities 50,000 ft ²).
L014	L014-a: Construct aircraft shelter, command and control building, and clear a UAS launch/recovery area at Comanche Flats. L014-b: Construct multiple buildings, concrete pad, water tank, POL storage area, and graded parking area at Comanche Flats.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance (aircraft shelter 52,500 ft ² , command and control building 2,000 ft ² , UAS launch/recovery area - clearing vegetation 162 ac and adding 282,600 ft ² of aggregate base coat (ABC) in center of area, office building 600 ft ² , maintenance building 900 ft ² , pad 1,000 ft ² , water tank 30,000 gallons 1,000 ft ² , POL storage 900 ft ² , graded parking 7,500 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.
L015-a	Repair landing pad and construct building at K-9 Village.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance (repair landing pad 90,000 ft ² , building 2,500 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.

TABLE 2-1
Proposed Action Activities Analyzed in Detail – Laguna Region
Yuma Proving Ground

Identifier	Proposed Activities ^a	Potential Impacts ^{b, c}
L016-a	Construct building, concrete or asphalt pad, shade structure, and install solar lights at Site 2.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance at site (building 900 ft ² , pad 40,000 ft ² , shade structure 400 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.
L017	Construct GCSs for UAS operations at tracking mount (TM) Site 4.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance (GCSs 2,500 ft ²).
L018	Construct concrete or asphalt pad and sensor tower east of existing sensor test building at Sidewinder Sensor Site.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance (pad 900 ft ² and 65-ft to 130-ft sensor tower 100 ft ²). Increased impervious area.
L019	Expand and combine West LA LTA, K-9 Village LTA, Site 2 LTA, and Site 4 LTA.	Vegetation and soil disturbance from dismounted maneuvers and bivouacs (6,521 ac). Note, additional NEPA analysis would be required for any new bivouac areas. The detailed analysis only addresses dismounted maneuvers.
L020	Upgrade equipment at Tire X-Ray Facility (Building 2310).	None, impacts confined to interior of existing facility.
L021	Construct solar chamber at Climatic Simulation Facilities (Building 3527).	Construction-related soil disturbance in previously disturbed area (solar chamber 15,000 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.
L022	Relocate dust chamber from Building 3352 to near Buildings 3357 and 3494 (Rough Handling).	Construction-related soil disturbance in previously disturbed area (dust chamber 15,000 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.
L023	L023-a: Improve ACP at the Kofa cantonment. L023-b: Construct joint wash rack for tracked and government owned vehicles (GOVs) at the Kofa cantonment. L023-c: Construct electric substation protection and electronics expansion at the Kofa cantonment. L023-d: Construct Howitzer Support/Acceptance Facility at the Kofa cantonment. L023-e: Construct open storage facility at the Kofa cantonment.	Construction-related soil disturbance in previously disturbed area (ACP improvements 19,500 ft ² , joint wash rack 900 ft ² , electronics expansion 10,500 ft ² , Howitzer Support/Acceptance Facility 22,500 ft ² , storage facility 70,000 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.
L024	Relocate Semi-trailer Delivery Safe Haven.	Construction-related soil disturbance in previously disturbed area (11,000 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.
L025	L025-a: Construct Aberdeen Road flood upgrades. L025-b: Construct range road improvements.	Construction-related soil disturbance in previously disturbed area (Aberdeen Road flood upgrades 0.5 mile, range road improvements 31.5 miles). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area. Improved traffic flow. Improved safety.
L026	Construct munitions treatment facility.	Construction-related soil disturbance in previously disturbed area (60,000 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.

TABLE 2-1
Proposed Action Activities Analyzed in Detail – Laguna Region
Yuma Proving Ground

Identifier	Proposed Activities ^a	Potential Impacts ^{b, c}
L027	Construct gun storage facility at the Kofa cantonment.	Construction-related soil disturbance in previously disturbed area (22,000 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.
L028	Construct five ammunition magazines near the Kofa cantonment.	Construction-related soil disturbance in previously disturbed area (4,000 ft ² each totaling approximately 22,000 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.
L029	Construct optical maintenance facility, graded parking area with power pole farm, and perimeter fencing.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance (building 7,500 ft ² , parking area 90,342 ft ² , fencing 2,400 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.
L030	L030: Expand LTA to support operational testing and dismantled maneuvers at Muggins/Middle East (only one alternative would be selected): L030-a: 16,640 ac L030-b: 6,331 ac	Vegetation and soil disturbance from dismantled maneuvers and bivouacs (up to 16,640 ac). Note, additional NEPA analysis would be required for any new bivouac areas. The detailed analysis only addresses dismantled maneuvers,
L031	L031: Construct MFFS Dining Facility (DFAC) (only one option to be selected): L031-a: at Location Option 1 L031-b: at Location Option 2 L031-c: at Location Option 3	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance (building 48,979 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.
L032	Expand Bravo LTA.	Vegetation and soil disturbance from dismantled maneuvers and bivouacs (828 ac).
L033	Expand Hill 630 LTA.	Vegetation and soil disturbance from dismantled maneuvers and bivouacs (1,141 ac).
L034	L034: Construct MFFS Ready Room (only one option to be selected): L034-a: at Location Option 1 L034-b: at Location Option 2 L034-c: at Location Option 3	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance (48,979 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.
L035	Construct Armament Test Operations and Analysis Facility.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance (60,000 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.
L036	Construct Shower Facility at LAAF FOB area.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance. Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.
L040	Construct DZ near LAAF (984 ft x 1,969 ft).	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance (44.5 ac). Construction-related emissions.
L041	Construct air delivery storage and laboratory facility behind Building 2970.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance (up to 14,851 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.
L042	Upgrade facility to an office and hangar in Building 3025.	None, all work confined to interior remodeling of existing facilities.

^a Work proposed within existing buildings is not shown on maps because there would be no environmental impacts.

^b Measurements are approximate.

^c Measures to eliminate or reduce potential impacts are discussed in text under each resource, as appropriate.

TABLE 2-1

Proposed Action Activities Analyzed in Detail – Laguna Region
Yuma Proving Ground

Identifier	Proposed Activities ^a	Potential Impacts ^{b, c}
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Note: Some project identifiers in maps represent unrelated activities that are grouped due to geographical proximity. Those that include a letter with the identifier are considered independent activities. Graphic representation on maps may be larger or smaller than the project area.

TABLE 2-2

Proposed Action Activities Analyzed Programmatically– Laguna Region
Yuma Proving Ground

Identifier	Proposed Activities ^a	Potential Principal Impacts ^{b, c}
L001-b	Install hard power/fiber, communication service at K-9 Village southern area.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance along utility lines (4,395 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area. Long-term reduction in fossil fuel use and air emissions from replacement of generators with hard power.
L002-b	Install hard power at LAAF.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance along utility lines 12,500 ft ² . Construction-related emissions. Temporary disruption of on-post traffic. Increased impervious area.
L008-b	Construct roadway drainage improvements at CDH.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance from roadway drainage improvements 370,000 ft ² . Construction-related emissions.
L013-b	Install hard power, fiber, and phone service to the Threat Systems and Target Simulations Buildings 3572 and 3574.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance along utility lines 100 ft ² . Long-term reduction in fossil fuel use and air emissions from replacement of generators with hard power.
L014-c	Install hard power/fiber and communication service at Comanche Flats.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance along utility lines (7,560 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Long-term reduction in fossil fuel use and air emissions from replacement of generators with hard power.
L015-b	Install hard power, fiber, and communication service at K-9 Village northern area.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance along utility lines (2,962 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Long-term reduction in fossil fuel use and air emissions from replacement of generators with hard power.
L016-b	Install hard power, fiber, and communication service at Site 2.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance along utility lines (250 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Long-term reduction in fossil fuel use and air emissions from replacement of generators with hard power.
L037	Construct vehicle test course.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance (up to 5,171 ac). Construction-related emissions.
L038	Construct vehicle test course.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance (up to 1,550 ac). Construction-related emissions.

TABLE 2-2
Proposed Action Activities Analyzed Programmatically– Laguna Region
Yuma Proving Ground

Identifier	Proposed Activities ^a	Potential Principal Impacts ^{b, c}
L039	Construct vehicle test course.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance (up to 2,318 ac). Construction-related emissions.
L100	L100-a: Construct addition to Building 3021. L100-b: Construct Future Combat Systems (FCS) Rotary Class IV hangars, and FCS. large Class IV hangar to the west of LAAF. L100-c: Construct large transient UAS hangar with pad access west of LAAF. L100-d: Construct aviation growth hangar at LAAF. L100-e: Construct administrative support building to the west of LAAF. L100-f: Construct U.S. Army Special Operations Command (USASOC) Tactical Hangar at LAAF.	Construction-related soil disturbance in previously disturbed area (addition to Building 3021 5,972 ft ² , FCS Rotary Class IV hangars totaling 17,600 ft ² , FCS large Class IV hangar 5,972 ft ² , UAS hangar 6,200 ft ² , aviation growth hangar 20,250 ft ² , administrative support building 38,500 ft ² , USASOC Tactical Hangar 67,774 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.
L101	L101-a: Construct motor pool to the north of LAAF. L101-b: Construct addition to ammunition building rigging bay to the north of LAAF. L101-c: Construct access from Ocotillo Road and ammunition building access road improvements to the north of LAAF. L101-d: Construct storage yard improvements to the north of LAAF.	Construction-related soil disturbance in previously disturbed area (motor pool 26,300 ft ² , addition to rigging bay 10,200 ft ² , access from Ocotillo Road 5,600 ft in length [180,000 ft ²], access road improvements 700 ft in length), storage yard improvements 60,500 ft ² . Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.
L102	L102-a: Construct new MFFS Terminal at LAAF/MAA. L102-b: Construct consolidated rigger facility at LAAF/MAA. L102-c: Construct UAS airfield, hangars, taxiways, and UAS flight test area and other supporting infrastructure at LAAF/MAA. L102-d: Construct CASA Transport Aircraft Hangar at LAAF/MAA.	Construction-related soil disturbance in previously disturbed area (MFFS Terminal 28,000 ft ² , consolidated rigger facility 15,500 ft ² , UAS taxiways 2,000 ft in length [120,000 ft ²], UAV airfield and hangars 403,250 ft ² , UAV flight test area and other supporting infrastructure 76,000 ft ²), CASA Transport Aircraft Hangar 153,858 ft ² . Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.
L103	L103-a: Construct fire station at CDH. L103-b: Construct fuel point at CDH. L103-c: Construct C-130 parking at CDH. L103-d: Construct hot cargo refueling area at CDH. L103-e: Construct dining facility at CDH. L103-f: Construct airship hangar at CDH.	Construction-related soil disturbance in previously disturbed area (Fire station, fuel point, and C-130 parking, totaling 410,000 ft ² , hot cargo refueling area 240,200 ft ² , dining facility 4,800 ft ² , and airship hangar 1,683,500 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area. Improved safety.
L104	Construct water treatment facility and a wastewater evaporative pond at CDH.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance (77,100 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.
L105	Construct crosswind runway at CDH.	Construction-related soil disturbance in previously disturbed area (6,000 ft in length [300,000 ft ²]). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.

TABLE 2-2
Proposed Action Activities Analyzed Programmatically– Laguna Region
Yuma Proving Ground

Identifier	Proposed Activities ^a	Potential Principal Impacts ^{b, c}
L106	L106-a: Construct 4 administrative support buildings. L106-b: Construct Installation Logistics Complex.	Construction-related soil disturbance in previously disturbed area (4 administrative support buildings totaling 44,465 ft ² , Installation Logistics Complex 76,833 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.
L107	Construct improvements to Cox Field, AT/FP, and Garrison headquarters, and convert Street D to pedestrian walkway.	Construction-related soil disturbance in previously disturbed area (Cox Field 343,500 ft ² , AT/FP 12,000 ft ² , Garrison headquarters 17,200 ft ² , Street D 6,900 ft ²). Short-term on-post traffic disruption. Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.
L108	L108-a: Improve truck ACP at the Kofa cantonment. L108-b: Expand range communication at the Kofa cantonment. L108-c: Expand sand blasting at the Kofa cantonment. L108-d: Consolidate optics at the Kofa cantonment. L108-e: Construct second GOV and tracked vehicle maintenance facility at the Kofa cantonment.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance (truck ACP 12,000 ft ² , range communication 20,000 ft ² , sand blasting 44,000 ft ² , optics 370,000 ft ² , second maintenance facility 122,230 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.
L109	Construct wax plant expansion at the Kofa cantonment.	Construction-related soil disturbance in previously disturbed area (40,500 ft ²). Increased impervious area.
L110	Construct additional ammunition plant similar to Building 3482 and air-conditioned chamber near the Kofa cantonment.	Construction-related soil disturbance in previously disturbed area (ammunition plant 150,000 ft ² and air-conditioned chamber 40,000 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.
L111	Upgrade equipment and electrical supply at Physical Test Facility (Buildings 3490 and 3130).	None, all work confined to interior remodeling of existing facilities.
L112	Upgrade equipment in vibration test facilities (Buildings 3496, 3495, and 3594).	None, all work confined to interior remodeling of existing facilities.
L113	Upgrade equipment at radiography facility (Building 3493).	None, all work confined to interior remodeling of existing facilities.

^a Work proposed within existing buildings is not shown on maps because there would be no environmental impacts.

^b Measurements are approximate.

^c Measures to eliminate or reduce potential impacts are discussed in text under each resource, as appropriate.

Note: Some project identifiers in maps represent unrelated activities that are grouped due to geographical proximity. Those that include a letter with the identifier are considered independent activities. Graphic representation on maps may be larger or smaller than the project area.

TABLE 2-3
Proposed Action Activities Analyzed in Detail – Cibola Region ^a
Yuma Proving Ground

Identifier	Proposed Activities ^b	Potential Impacts ^{c, d}
C002	Construct new DZs: C002-a - South Urban DZ (1,640-ft radius) south of Urban DZ. C002-b - Tomahawk Circular DZ 769 (2,297-ft radius). C002-c - Tombstone DZ (984-ft radius). C002-d - Village Circular DZ (984-ft radius). C002-e - Abken DZ (1,640-ft radius). C002-f - Urban Circular Joint Precision Airdrop System (JPADS) DZ (984-ft radius).	Activity-related soil and vegetation disturbance (South Urban DZ 194 ac, Tomahawk Circular DZ 380 ac, Tombstone DZ 70 ac, Village Circular DZ 70 ac, Abken DZ 194 ac, and Urban Circular JPADS DZ 70 ac).
C003	C003-a - Establish small arms impact areas for inert munitions at JERC I. C003-b - Establish small arms impact areas for inert munitions at JERC II. C003-c - Establish small arms impact areas for inert munitions at JERC III.	Inert fire weapons use at JERC I: impact areas 62 ac, 62 ac, and 15 ac; JERC II 62 ac; and JERC III 50 ac. These small arms impact areas would use collection boxes for fired ammunition and would be cleaned between tests. Potential air emissions from obscurants.
C004-a	Construct facilities at Gauna Peak.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance at site (facilities 2,500 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.
C005-a	Construct building at Site 18.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance at site (building 1,600 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.
C006	Establish Phoenix West Impact Area.	Long-term soil and vegetation disturbance from testing and training activities (262 ac). Inert and explosive fire weapons use. Potential air emissions from obscurants.
C007-a	Construct runway extension, aircraft shelter, and POL storage at Phoenix UAS site.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance (runway extension 75,000 ft ² , aircraft shelter 8,000 ft ² , POL storage 900 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area. Reduced potential for POL spills.
C008-a	Construct building at Site 16.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance at site (building 1,600 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.
C009	Establish North UAS Impact Area.	Long-term soil and vegetation disturbance from testing and training activities (275 ac). Inert and explosive fire weapons use. Potential air emissions from obscurants.
C010	Construct aircraft shelter, POL storage, and graded parking lot at North UAV complex.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance (aircraft shelter 43,500 ft ² , POL storage 900 ft ² , and parking lot 7,500 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area. Reduced potential for POL spills.

TABLE 2-3
Proposed Action Activities Analyzed in Detail – Cibola Region ^a
Yuma Proving Ground

Identifier	Proposed Activities ^b	Potential Impacts ^{c, d}
C011	Establish La Posa West Impact Area.	Long-term soil and vegetation disturbance from testing and training activities (395 ac). Inert and explosive fire weapons use. Potential air emissions from obscurants.
C012-a	Construct building and concrete pad at PSS Test Area (west of La Posa DZ).	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance at site (building 2,500 ft ² , pad 5,000 ft ²).
C014	C014-a: Install shade structure at Stinger Pole Target Area.	Minimal soil and vegetation disturbance to place support poles (shade structure 400 ft ²).
C015	Construct Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance/Electro-optical (ISR/EO) Ground Truth Reference Sites at: C015-a: Yuma Wash (33.156, -114.485) C015-b: Middle Mountain Road (33.063, -114.358) C015-c: Mule Wash (33.432, -114.503) C015-d: (33.446, -114.471) C015-e: (33.477, -114.286) C015-f: (33.444, -114.325) C015-g: (33.448, -114.275) C015-h: (33.421, -114.279) C015-i: (33.408, -114.360) C015-j: (33.389, -114.303) C015-k: (33.387, -114.366) C015-l: (33.347, -114.286) C015-m: (33.297, -114.395) C015-n: (33.165, -114.480) C015-o: (33.122, -114.299) C015-p: (33.090, -114.447) C015-q: (33.081, -114.353) C015-r: (33.967, -114.422)	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance (each site - 2,000 ft ²).
C016	Rebuild target for long-range missile firing at Maverick Target.	None – existing target to be rebuilt.
C017-a	Construct building, bomb-proof shelter, shade structure, concrete or asphalt pad, and sensor tower at camera mount (CM) 4.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance at site (building 1,500 ft ² , bomb-proof shelter 2,000 ft ² , shade structure 400 ft ² , pad 40,000 ft ² , and 65-ft to 130-ft sensor tower 100 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.
C018	Construct landing pad at CM 1.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance (pad 90,000 ft ²). Increased impervious area.
C019	Construct building and concrete pad at Z-12.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance (building 2,000 ft ² and pad 90,000 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.
C020-a	Construct sensor tower, buildings, air-conditioning, and concrete pad at Site 9.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance at site (sensor tower 65-ft to 130-ft tall 100 ft ² , buildings 2,000 ft ² , air-conditioned facility 1,000 ft ² , pad 40,000 ft ²). Increased impervious area.

TABLE 2-3Proposed Action Activities Analyzed in Detail – Cibola Region ^a*Yuma Proving Ground*

Identifier	Proposed Activities ^b	Potential Impacts ^{c, d}
C021 (activities centered at - 114.356, 33.077)	C021-a: Construct secure building with reinforced concrete floors and ramp to building. C021-b: Construct multiple buildings, water tank, POL storage area, and graded parking. C021-c: Construct aircraft shelter. C021-d: Clear launch/recovery area.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance (total area for C021-a through C021-d: 193,284 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area. Reduced potential for POL spills.
C022 (activities centered at - 114.36, 33.074)	C022-a: Construct building, concrete slab, walkways, and fencing. C022-b: Construct aircraft shelter. C022-c: Construct POL storage. C022-d: Relocate meteorological tower. C022-e: Construct runway expansion and taxiway.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance at site (command and control room 2,000 ft ² , walkways 1,800 ft ² , 10,000 ft ² concrete slab, aircraft shelter 12,000 ft ² , POL storage area 900 ft ² , meteorological tower 100 ft ² , runway expansion 725,000 ft ² , and taxiway 400,000 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area. Reduced potential for POL spills.
C023 (activities centered at - 114.363, 33.051)	C023-a: Construct multiple buildings, water tank, POL storage area, and graded parking. C023-b: Construct aircraft shelter. C023-c: Clear a launch/recovery area.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance (multiple buildings 2,500 ft ² each, 30,000 gal water tank 1,000 ft ² , POL storage area 900 ft ² , graded parking area 7,500 ft ² , aircraft shelter 43,500 ft ² , and launch/recovery area 22.8 ac). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area. Reduced potential for POL spills.
C024	C024-a: construct aircraft shelter, concrete pad, graded parking area near Inverted Range Control Center (IRCC) Tank Maintenance and Storage Ramada. C024-b: fence and install solar lights, around IRCC Tank Maintenance and Storage Ramada compound.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance (shelter 1,600 ft ² , pad 90,000 ft ² , graded parking area 250,000 ft ² , and fence 4,000 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area. Reduced long-term use of fossil fuels by using solar lights.
C025-a	Construct runway, taxiway, aircraft shelter, and building at IRCC.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance at site (runway 27.5 ac, taxiway 14 ac, aircraft shelter 12,000 ft ² , and building 2,000 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.
C026	C026-a: Construct ramp to existing building, and rollup door to existing building, and install solar lights at Site 10 Missile Test Facility. C026-b: Construct concrete landing pad.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance at site (ramp 500 ft ² and landing pad 90,000 ft ²). Increased impervious area. Reduced long-term use of fossil fuels by using solar lights.
C027	C027-a: Expand flat area on top of hill, and construct facility, concrete pad, and sensor tower at Site 12. C027-b: Construct road leading from the sensor building on the top of the hill at Site 12A down to the Persistent Threat Detection System (PTDS) Site.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance (total area for C027-a: 10.2 ac and for road 34,850 ft ²). Increased impervious area.
C029-a	Construct buildings and concrete pad at Aerostat Mooring Site.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance at site (buildings 2,000 ft ² , pad 10,000 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.

TABLE 2-3
Proposed Action Activities Analyzed in Detail – Cibola Region ^a
Yuma Proving Ground

Identifier	Proposed Activities ^b	Potential Impacts ^{c, d}
C030-a	Construct aircraft shelter, multiple buildings, water tank, POL storage area, and graded parking area, and clear a launch/recovery area east of Rocket Alley.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance at site (aircraft shelter 52,500 ft ² , command and control building 2,000 ft ² , office building 600 ft ² , maintenance building 900 ft ² , water tank 30,000 gallons 1,000 ft ² , POL storage area 900 ft ² , graded parking area 7,500 ft ² , and UAS launch/recovery area clearing vegetation of 162 ac and adding 282,600 ft ² of ABC in center of area). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area. Reduced potential for POL spills.
C031	Utilize Site 6 as a meteorological station.	None, existing disturbed area.
C032	Renovate Large Multi-Purpose Environmental Chamber (Building 6015).	None, action limited to renovation within existing building footprint.
C033-a	Construct aircraft shelter, multiple buildings, concrete pad, water tank, POL storage area, and graded parking area, and clear a launch/recovery area at C-17.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance at site (aircraft shelter 52,500 ft ² , command and control building 2,000 ft ² , office building 600 ft ² , maintenance building 900 ft ² , pad 5,000 ft ² , 30,000-gallon water tank 1,000 ft ² , POL storage 900 ft ² , graded parking area 7,500 ft ² , and UAS launch/recovery area clearing vegetation of 162 ac and adding 282,600 ft ² of ABC in center of area). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area. Reduced potential for POL spills.
C034-a	Expand size of Graze Range Impact Areas by consolidating 7 individual impact areas into a single larger area.	Long-term soil and vegetation disturbance from testing and training activities (527 ac). Inert and explosive fire weapons use. Potential air emissions from obscurants.
C035	Expand Combined Live Fire Exercise Range at OP-9 by consolidating 2 designated impact areas and Prospect Square.	Long-term soil and vegetation disturbance from testing and training activities (200 ac). Inert and explosive fire weapons use. Potential air emissions from obscurants.
C036	Increase use of Prospect Square for bombing or aircraft gunnery.	None, inert and explosive fire weapons use is authorized for this area.
C038	Construct medical evacuation (MEDEVAC) pad.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance at site (MEDEVAC pad 1,000 ft ²). Increased impervious area.
C039	Construct air-conditioned storage facility at Castle Dome Annex (CDA).	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance at site (8,000 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.
C041	Expand LTA to support operational testing and dismounted maneuver training at Middle Mountain.	Long-term soils disturbance from dismounted maneuver activities (11,230 ac). Note, additional NEPA analysis would be required for any new bivouac areas. The detailed analysis only addresses dismounted maneuvers,
C043	Temporarily bury simulated missiles, explosives, etc. off roads for sensor testing. Locations for temporary burials would vary and be determined by specific testing requirements. Locations include: C043-a - All JERC I roads.	Long-term soil and vegetation disturbance from recurring testing activities. Disturbances would be episodic and may be separately widely in space or time.

TABLE 2-3

Proposed Action Activities Analyzed in Detail – Cibola Region ^a
Yuma Proving Ground

Identifier	Proposed Activities ^b	Potential Impacts ^{c, d}
	C043-b - All JERC II roads. C043-c – All JERC III roads.	
C044	C044-a -Clear MEDEVAC helicopter landing pad at JERC I for evacuations. C044-b -Clear MEDEVAC helicopter landing pad at JERC II for evacuations. C044-c -Clear MEDEVAC helicopter landing pad at JERC III for evacuations.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance (2,500 ft ² each).
C046	Expand North UAV Compound C046-a: Construct concrete pad. C046-b: Grade project area and install fencing. C046-c: Construct asphalt taxiway.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance for pad (23,808 ft ²), project area and fencing (25,704 ft ²), and taxiway (62,500 ft ²). Increased impervious area.
C047	Create 23 TGP's at: C047-a: Rocket Alley C047-b: CM9 East C047-c: Cibola Target Boundary GP C047-d: Site 16 C047-e: CM9 West C047-f: C17 (North and South) C047-g: Mound C Archer GP C047-h: Mound C GP C047-i: CM1 West C047-j: La Posa DZ C047-k: Site 8 GP C047-l: West Target Road GP C047-m: BM1072 C047-n: Excalibur SW GP C047-o: LADZ GP C047-p: Site 18 GP C047-q: 2.75 Rocket GP C047-r: Ehrenberg GP C047-s: DFR GP C047-t: La Posa South DZ C047-u: Water Tank GP C047-v: LA DZ East C047-w: C17 North M777LWH GP.	Soil and vegetation disturbance (up to 2.2 ac at each site). Any weapons fire would be directed into existing authorized impact areas.
C049	Install acoustic and seismic sensor at Horizontal Impact Area.	Very minor construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance.
C050-a	C050-a: Construct building and UAS launch/recovery site at Simulated Minefield Site to support UAS operations.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance at site (building 1,600 ft ² and UAS launch/recovery site - vegetation clearing 162 ac and adding 282,600 ft ² of ABC in center of area). Construction-related emissions. Increased impervious area.
C051	Install shade structure at Lightweight Shock Facility.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance (400 ft ²).
C052	Establish CM 7 Impact Area.	Long-term soil and vegetation disturbance from testing and training activities (1,270 ac). Inert and explosive weapons fire use. Potential air emissions from obscurants.

TABLE 2-3
Proposed Action Activities Analyzed in Detail – Cibola Region ^a
Yuma Proving Ground

Identifier	Proposed Activities ^b	Potential Impacts ^{c, d}
C053	Establish CM 4 North Impact Area.	Long-term soil and vegetation disturbance from testing and training activities (1,510 ac). Inert and explosive weapons fire use. Potential air emissions from obscurants.
C054	Construct Yuma Wash ECUT expansion.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance (78,400 ft ²).
C055	Establish Multi-Purpose North Impact Area.	Long-term soil and vegetation disturbance from testing and training activities (567 ac). Inert and explosive weapons fire use. Potential air emissions from obscurants.
C056	Establish Multi-Purpose South Impact Area.	Long-term soil and vegetation disturbance from testing and training activities (3,823 ac). Inert and explosive weapons fire use. Potential air emissions from obscurants.
C057	Expand Rocket Alley Impact Area.	Long-term soil and vegetation disturbance from testing and training activities (2,127 ac). Inert and explosive weapons fire use. Potential air emissions from obscurants.
C058	Establish Aerial Weapons Impact Area.	Long-term soil and vegetation disturbance from testing and training activities (2,452 ac). Inert and explosive weapons fire use. Potential air emissions from obscurants.
C059	Establish East Target Road Impact Area.	Long-term soil and vegetation disturbance from testing and training activities (2,531 ac). Inert and explosive weapons fire use. Potential air emissions from obscurants.
C061	Create LTA to support operational testing and dismounted maneuver training at JERC I/ Saderville.	Vegetation and soil disturbance from dismounted maneuvers and bivouacs (8,437 ac). Note, additional NEPA analysis would be required for any bivouac areas. The detailed analysis only addresses dismounted maneuvers,
C062	Create LTA to support operational testing and dismounted maneuver training at JERC II.	Vegetation and soil disturbance from dismounted maneuvers and bivouacs (3,503 ac). Note, additional NEPA analysis would be required for any bivouac areas. The detailed analysis only addresses dismounted maneuvers,
C063	Create LTA to support operational testing and dismounted maneuver training at JERC III.	Vegetation and soil disturbance from dismounted maneuvers and bivouacs (4,312 ac). Note, additional NEPA analysis would be required for any bivouac areas. The detailed analysis only addresses dismounted maneuvers,
C065	C065: Create LRA Impact Areas: C065-a: LRA Impact Area 1 C065-b: LRA Impact Area 2 C065-c: LRA Impact Area 3 C065-d: LRA Impact Area 4	Long-term soil and vegetation disturbance from testing and training activities (9.9 ac for each site). Inert and explosive weapons fire use. Potential air emissions from obscurants.
C066	C066-a: Construct aerial cable drop site for drop testing in mountains north of Prospect Square. Activity includes two cables suspended between mountain peaks, winches and pulleys for each cable, 328-ft target area. C066-b: Construct an approximately 2.5-	Vegetation and soil disturbance to create a passable access path to the proposed location. Terrain at this location would require cost-prohibitive road work to create a passable access path. In addition, this location has airspace conflicts with Aviation and Air Delivery test missions. Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance (2 cable sites [each 11,065 ft ²], target area [87,855 ft ²], and access

TABLE 2-3Proposed Action Activities Analyzed in Detail – Cibola Region ^a*Yuma Proving Ground*

Identifier	Proposed Activities ^b	Potential Impacts ^{c, d}
	mile access trail to the target area in mountains north of Prospect Square.	trail [3 ac]).

^a The project originally proposed as C028 has been removed from direct analysis in this document. Due to a time critical need for implementation, this activity was analyzed through a separate and specific NEPA document. This activity is considered in the analysis of cumulative impacts in this document.

^b Work proposed within existing buildings is not shown on maps because there would be no environmental impacts.

^c Measurements are approximate.

^d Measures to eliminate or reduce potential impacts are discussed in text under each resource, as appropriate.

Note: Some project identifiers in maps represent unrelated activities that are grouped due to geographical proximity. Those that include a letter with the identifier are considered independent activities. Graphic representation on maps may be larger or smaller than the project area.

TABLE 2-4Proposed Action Activities Analyzed Programmatically – Cibola Region ^a*Yuma Proving Ground*

Identifier	Proposed Activities ^b	Potential Principal Impacts ^{c, d}
C001	Construct vehicle test course.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance (up to 4,644 ac). Construction-related emissions.
C004-b	Install hard power/fiber and communication service at Gauna Peak.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance along utility lines (5,848 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Long-term reduction in fossil fuel use and air emissions from replacement of generators with hard power.
C005-b	Install hard power, water, sewer, and communication service at Site 18.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance along utility lines (87,990 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Long-term reduction in fossil fuel use and air emissions from replacement of generators with hard power.
C007-b	Install hard power/fiber and communication service at Phoenix UAS site.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance along utility lines (26,870 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Long-term reduction in fossil fuel use and air emissions from replacement of generators with hard power.
C008-b	Install hard power, water, sewer, and communication service at Site 16.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance along utility lines (1,050 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Long-term reduction in fossil fuel use and air emissions from replacement of generators with hard power.
C012-b	Install hard power/fiber at PSS Test Area (west of La Posa DZ).	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance along utility lines (31,090 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Long-term reduction in fossil fuel use and air emissions from replacement of generators with hard power.
C013	Install hard power/fiber and communication service at Electronic Common Use Test (ECUT) area.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance along utility lines (47,970 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Long-term reduction in fossil fuel use and air emissions from replacement of generators with hard power.

TABLE 2-4
Proposed Action Activities Analyzed Programmatically – Cibola Region ^a
Yuma Proving Ground

Identifier	Proposed Activities ^b	Potential Principal Impacts ^{c, d}
C014-b	Install hard power to Stinger Pole Target Area.	Minimal soil and vegetation disturbance along utility lines (2.68 ac). Construction-related emissions. Long-term reduction in fossil fuel use and air emissions from replacement of generators with hard power.
C017-b	Install phone service at CM 4.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance along utility lines (9,575 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Long-term reduction in fossil fuel use and air emissions from replacement of generators with hard power.
C020-b	Install hard power and communication service at Site 9.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance along utility lines (7,880 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Long-term reduction in fossil fuel use and air emissions from replacement of generators with hard power.
C021-e	Install hard power/fiber and communication service centered at (-114.356, 33.077).	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance along utility lines (1,810 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Long-term reduction in fossil fuel use and air emissions from replacement of generators with hard power.
C023-d	Install hard power/fiber and communication service centered at (-114.363, 33.051).	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance along utility lines (216 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Long-term reduction in fossil fuel use and air emissions from replacement of generators with hard power.
C025-b	Install hard power/fiber adjacent to existing helicopter pad at IRCC.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance along utility lines (1,245 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Long-term reduction in fossil fuel use and air emissions from replacement of generators with hard power.
C026-c	Install hard power/fiber at Site 10 Missile Test Facility.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance along utility lines (1,670 ft ²). Long-term reduction in fossil fuel use and air emissions from replacement of generators with hard power.
C029-b	Install generators and hard power/fiber at Aerostat Mooring Site.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance along utility lines (12,220 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Long-term reduction in fossil fuel use and air emissions from replacement of generators with hard power.
C030-b	Install hard power/fiber and communication service east of Rocket Alley.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance along utility lines (13,500 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Long-term reduction in fossil fuel use and air emissions from replacement of generators with hard power.
C033-b	Install hard power/fiber and communication service at C-17.	Construction-related soil and vegetation disturbance along utility lines (1,418 ft ²). Construction-related emissions. Long-term reduction in fossil fuel use and air emissions from replacement of generators with hard power.